

**RECORD**



OF

**THE ROBLIN  
ADMINISTRATION**

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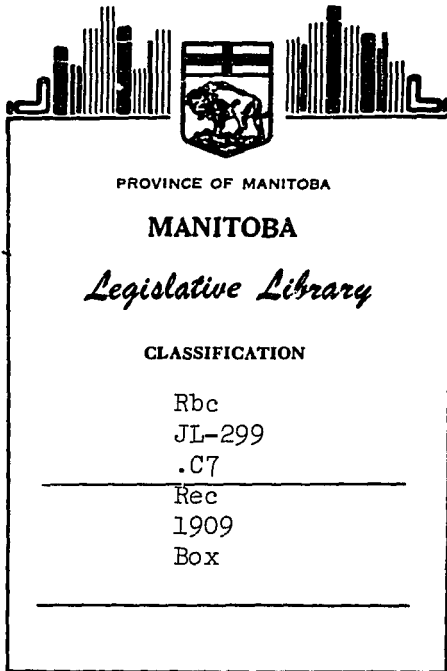
**1900-1909**

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**TEN YEARS OF  
PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENT**

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OF

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TEN YEARS

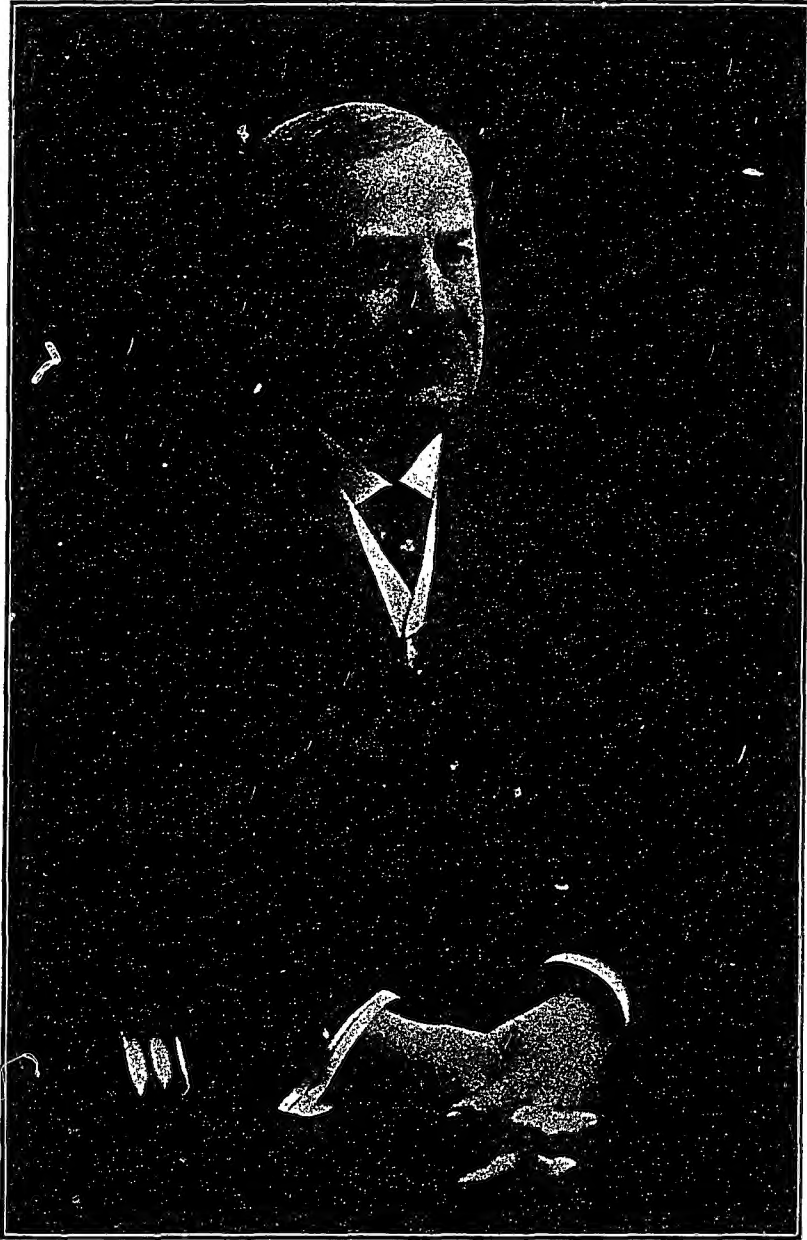
OF

PROGRESSIVE GOVERNMENT









**HON. R. P. ROBLIN, Premier of Manitoba.**

"Mr. Roblin is a big man in every sense of the word."

"The Government is pre-eminently a government that does things which is why it is so strongly entrenched in power."—TOWN TOPICS. Feb. 19, 1910.

## INTRODUCTION.

The record contained herein is not intended as a biased predication on Provincial questions. The object is simply to truthfully chronicle in as brief a form as possible the accomplishments of the Roblin Government during the past ten years, and to present facts and cogent reasons why that Government is entitled to and worthy of a continuance of the confidence and esteem of the people of Manitoba.

In addition, the vagaries and inconsistencies of the opponents of the Government are pointed out, and the issues clearly defined. It is for the people to determine between progressive Government and the still greater development of the Province, and the return to a vicious form of Government directly under the control and domination of the Ottawa Government, the arch-enemy of the Province of Manitoba.

## Conservative Platform, 1899

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That the alarming condition of the finances of the Province demands the introduction of such economical methods of administration as will re-establish the equilibrium between receipts and expenditures.

That the present iniquitous franchise law be repealed, and that an equitable Act, based on the principles of manhood suffrage and one man one vote, be enacted.

That the alien law be strictly enforced.

The encouragement of an immigration policy that will secure to the Province her portion of a desirable class of European immigrants, as well as those from the older Provinces of Canada and the United States, but regret the wholesale importation of undesirable immigrants from Southern Europe.

That the affairs of the Province be administered on businesslike principles, without regard to political considerations, especially in so far as our educational system is concerned, which should be absolutely freed from party politics by the establishment of an independent board of education.

That the Province have control of the School lands and the proceeds of the sales of all lands that have been sold or will be sold in the near future, to be used only for the purpose of supplementing the ordinary school grant as given from year to year.

That the proper administration of justice, including the appointment of justices of the peace, commissioners in B. R. and other officers of justice, be from representative men, independent of politics.

That the Province, providing its revenue is sufficient for the purposes, establish and main an agricultural college, also a technical school at which mechanics and others may receive practical training.

The adoption of the principle of government ownership of railways, in so far as the circumstances of the Province will admit, and the adoption of the principle that no bonuses should be granted to any railway company which does not give the Government of the Province the control of the rates over lines bonused, together with the option of purchase.

That the demand be made for the transfer of all Crown lands, within the boundaries of Manitoba, to the Province.

That aid be granted to municipalities, by way of guarantee or interest upon debentures, when required.

Equal rights to all.

That an Act be passed for compensation for injuries received by workmen in their usual employment.

That the boundaries of the Province be extended northward to the Hudson Bay.

That the Province assume control and administration of the fisheries of this Province.

That a line of railway be constructed to Hudson Bay.

That a measure be adopted to give effect to the will of the people regarding prohibition of the liquor traffic, which measure should go as far in the direction of prohibition as the powers of the Province will allow.

### A RETROSPECT AND A PARALLEL

In the year 1899 the Greenway Government was swept out of existence by an outraged electorate, and deservedly so, as the finances of the Province were found to be in a deplorable condition. The bank accounts, both of a general and trust nature, had been largely overdrawn, and school grants and other accounts against the Province were out standing to the extent of over \$150,000.00; and grave irregularities existed in several of the departments. To arrive at a true financial position of the Province the incoming Government appointed a Commission to investigate and report respecting the premises. This report disclosed an alarming state of affairs. It was found that the cash deficit of the Government amounted to \$91,522.00, made up as follows:—

Imperial Bank, overdraft .....	\$76,036 77
Provincial Government, trust account..	15,485 75
	<hr/> \$91,522 52

The several departments of the Government were stagnant and past due accounts for services rendered and materials furnished the Government had been pigeon-holed and left to Providence to care for. These unpaid accounts amounted to \$156,613.88, as follows:—

Dept. of Public Works .....	\$23,674 76
Dept. of Attorney-General .....	7,530 00
Dept. of Education .....	64,476 69
Dept. of Agriculture and Immigration....	14,938 08
Dept. of Executive Council .....	15,955 16
Dept. of Treasury .....	7,002 76
Dept. of Drainage Districts .....	18,537 79
Dept. of Provincial Lands .....	4,058 95
Dept. of Internal Economy .....	439 69
	<hr/> \$156,613 88

The whole internal machinery of the Government had become, as it were, rusty and incapable of performing its proper functions. Responsible Government had become a travesty. It was akin to a rudderless ship upon a tempestuous sea. The policy apparently was one of drift and unconcern of public interest. Development was at

a standstill. Settlement was seriously retarded owing to the lack of railway facilities to open up new sections of the Province, and on this account also actual settlers were tremendously handicapped in marketing their grain and procuring the commodities of life. It also transpired that while the policy of lethargic indifference was the chief asset of the Greenway administration in so far as public interests were concerned, it was very much alive to matters involving personal interest or self aggrandisement. Every device, no matter how dishonorable, for the purpose of retaining office was resorted to. Deception and lack of candour was practiced to the utmost degree. The public money of the Province had been expended at a spendthrift rate. Upwards of a million dollars of the public money had found its way into the pockets of railway promoters with no corresponding equivalent in return as to control of freight rates, actually no benefits whatever, but on the contrary, simply a huge expenditure of public money to perpetuate a monopoly. These and many more gross violations of duty and public trusteeship the Greenway Government were guilty of. The whole foundation and superstructure of Government had become rotten and insecure.

The result was that at the General Election in 1899 an outraged people hurled this moribund Government from office and placed a Government in control of public affairs which promised reforms and upright dealing. This was not accomplished, however, without a superhuman effort on the part of the people, for the reason that the Greenway Government had so entrenched itself in office by means of a corrupt voters' list that it seemed almost impossible to accomplish the result.

However, the Conservative party of the Province, after the expenditure of thousands of dollars, succeeded in a measure in purging the lists of stuffed names of voters, and procured a fairly complete voters' list.

The first step taken by the Government succeeding the Greenway Government was to make the necessary financial arrangements to pay the past due school grants and other accounts left unpaid by the Greenway Government, and provision was made for other accruing payments and the repair and improvements to many of the public buildings, some of which were tottering to their fall. Accordingly the new Government, in order to wipe off and provide for the above, and to give the Province a new financial start, negotiated a loan for the sum of \$500,000.00 on the credit of the Province. The proceeds of this loan were used and devoted to the following purposes:

Deficit of the Greenway Government .....	\$248,136 40
Public buildings, 1900-1902 .....	81,363 19
Foundation, Parliament buildings .....	14,772 86
Railway aid bonuses (Greenway) .....	131,453 32
Survey fees, M. & N. W. Ry. lands .....	21,780 78
Town of Nelson, aid .....	3,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$500,506 55

A new era had, therefore, fallen upon the Province. Business commenced to be conducted according to proper methods, and year after year the present Government has been able to show increased surpluses instead of annual deficits, which were as regular under the Greenway administration as the rising and setting of the sun.

The Roblin Government has pursued and continued the policy introduced in 1899 until the present time, and this statement of fact is substantiated by the public record. It may well be proud of its substantiated by the public records. It may well be proud of its achievements!

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### **THE ROBLIN GOVERNMENT STANDS ON ITS RECORD OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS, AS WELL AS BY COMPARISONS**

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#### **The Legislation It Has Put Into Effect During the Past Ten Years**

A fair and impartial Election Act.  
 A Government-controlled railway system.  
 Absolute control of freight rates.  
 Reduction in grain and merchandise rates.  
 Taxation of railways and corporations.  
 An agricultural college.  
 A Government-owned elevator system.  
 A Government-owned telephone system.  
 A public abattoir.  
 Workmen's Compensation Act.  
 Good roads.  
 A restrictive Liquor Act, with local option provisions.  
 Technical education,  
 And other legislation, all tending for the good and welfare of the people.

The record is one to be justly proud of. No Government has ever enacted more comprehensive legislation—all in the interests of the people—than the present one so ably headed by Mr. Roblin.

#### **Opposition Initiated Absolutely Nothing**

Search the records of the Provincial Legislature and there will not be found one single act of initiative of the opponents of the present

Government. An absolute blank is their record. Carping and muck-raking is their stock-in-trade.

## DIRECT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES OF THE PROVINCE

### A Surplus of Assets Over Liabilities of the Province of Over Million Dollars

#### DIRECT ASSETS.

Dominion Government—		
Capital account Dec. 31, 1908	....\$	3,707,196 31
Unpaid subsidy and interest	.....	337,944 58
		\$ 4,045,140 89
School Land Fund—		
With Dominion Government, March		
31, 1908	.. . . . \$	2,185,211 69
Deferred payments on lands sold		
March 31, 1908	.. . . .	2,753,600 47
1,789,674 acres unsold at \$8	....	14,317,392 00
		\$19,256,204 16
		\$19,256,204 16
Provincial Lands—		
1,425,712 acres at \$3	.....\$	4,277,136 00
Deferred payments on lands sold	..	1,700,000 00
Lands yet to be turned over by the		
Dominion Government, estimated		
at 4,000,000 acres at \$3	.....	12,000,000 00
		\$17,977,136 00
Loans, advances, etc.	.....	\$ 205,318 00
Public buildings, furnishings, etc.	.....	2,366,782 00
Telephone system	.....	5,750,000 00
Cash on hand	.....	1,382,969 40
		\$50,983,550 45

#### DIRECT LIABILITIES.

Series A—M and N. W. debentures	.. \$	787,426 67
Series C — Hudson's Bay de-		
bentures	.. . . .	255,986 66
Series E—Provincial loan	.. . .	1,498,933 33
Series F—Provincial loan	.. . .	997,666 66
Series G—Provincial loan	.. . .	500,000 00
Series H—Telephone loan	.. . .	1,000,000 00
Series I—Telephone loan	.. . .	3,399,853 33
Series J—Telephone loan	.. . .	499,806 67
Treasury Bills, Telephone loan	.. .	250,000 00
		\$ 9,189,673 32
Surplus of Assets over Liabilities	.. . . .	\$41,793,877 13

## STATEMENT OF GUARANTEES GIVEN BY THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA

To whom Guarantee was Given	Purposes of the Bond or Debiture Issue	Date of Bond or Debiture	When Due	Where Payable	Amount of Issue	Rate %	Nature of Guarantee
Town of Emerson	Old Liability	Feb. 1, 1899	Feb. 1, 1910	Winnipeg	\$ 105,000 00	3	Interest only
Town of Minnedosa	"	Aug. 1, 1890	Aug. 1, 1910	Minnedosa	70,000 00	3	"
Town of Gladstone	"	Jan. 1, 1901	Jan. 1, 1921	Winnipeg	125,000 00	5	"
Town of Rapid City	"	Oct. 3, 1897	Feb. 1, 1919	Winnipeg	7,000 00	3	"
Town of Morris	"	May 1, 1900	May 1, 1920	Winnipeg	20,000 00	4	"
Town of Selkirk	"	May 1, 1903	May 1, 1910 1915	Chicago	60,000 00	4	"
Town of Neepawa	Telephone System	May 18, 1908	July 1, 1928	Montreal	80,000 00	4	Prinpl. & Intst.
Municipality of Argyle	"	Oct. 6, 1908	July 1, 1928	Montreal	40,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Brenda	"	July 1, 1908	July 1, 1928	Waskada	40,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Hamiota	"	Sept. 19, 1908	July 1, 1928	Montreal	25,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Macdonald	"	July 1, 1909	July 1, 1929	Montreal	13,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Macdonald	"	Aug. 1, 1908	Aug. 1, 1928	Montreal	20,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Minota	"	Aug. 1, 1900	Aug. 1, 1929	Montreal	10,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Minota	"	Sept. 1, 1908	Sept. 1, 1928	Winnipeg	35,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Morton	"	July 1, 1909	July 1, 1929	Winnipeg	12,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Pipestone	"	July 1, 1908	July 1, 1928	Montreal	30,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Strathcona	"	July 1, 1908	July 1, 1928	Montreal	30,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Wallace	"	July 1, 1907	July 1, 1927	Montreal	15,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Wallace	"	July 1, 1909	July 1, 1929	Montreal	5,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Woodworth	"	June 1, 1908	June 1, 1928	Montreal	20,000 00	4	"
Municipality of Woodworth	"	June 1, 1908	June 1, 1928	Kenton	40,000 00	4	"
Drainage Distr ct No. 1	Land Drainage	July 1, 1896	July 1, 1926	London, England	15,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 1	"	July 1, 1899	July 1, 1929	Montreal	99,765 65	4	"
Drainage District No. 2	"	Nov. 1, 1900	Nov. 1, 1930	"	200,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 2	"	May 15, 1904	May 15, 1931	"	150,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 2	"	Sept. 15, 1905	Sept. 15, 1935	"	150,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 2	"	Jan. 1, 1907	Jan. 1, 1927	"	25,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 3	"	Nov. 1, 1900	Nov. 1, 1930	"	35,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 3	"	Sept. 1, 1905	Sept. 1, 1930	"	10,455 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 4	"	Jan. 1, 1907	Jan. 1, 1937	"	12,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 4	"	Nov. 15, 1902	Nov. 15, 1932	"	72,000 00	4	"
Drainage District No. 4	"	Jan. 1, 1907	Jan. 1, 1937	"	40,000 00	4	"



Drainage District No.	Land Drainage	July 1, 1906	July 1, 1936	Montreal	\$	Prinpl. & Intst.
5.	"	Nov. 15, 1902	Nov. 15, 1932	"	162000 00	"
6.	"	May 15, 1904	May 15, 1934	"	29000 00	"
6.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	4000 00	"
7.	"	May 15, 1904	May 15, 1934	"	8000 00	"
7.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	2000 00	"
9.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	148000 00	"
9.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	65000 00	"
10.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	54000 00	"
11.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	123000 00	"
12.	"	Jan. 1, 1907	Jan. 1, 1937	"	86000 00	"
12.	"	May 15, 1903	May 15, 1933	"	9000 00	"
13.	"	Sept. 1, 1905	Sept. 1, 1935	"	100002 00	"
14.	"	July 1, 1906	July 1, 1936	"	22000 00	"
15.	"	Jan. 1, 1907	Jan. 1, 1937	"	111000 00	"
16.	"	July 1, 1908	July 1, 1938	"	40000 00	"
17.	"	Feb. 1, 1899	Feb. 1, 1929	"	11854286 63	"
Can. Northern Ry. Co and branch lines	Aid to Railway	July 1, 1909	July 1, 1949	Winnipeg	3000000 00	"
C.N.R. Co. (Winnipeg Terminals)	"	Sept. 30, 1901	June 30, 1930	London, etc.	5775586 67	"
Can. Northern Ry. Co. (Ont. Div.)	"			London, England		"

NOTE—The above constitute no direct liability of the Province, but merely an indirect one for which ample security is held.

## REVENUE OF THE PROVINCE FOR 1909

To Balance at December 31, 1908 . . .	\$1,932,041 19
<i>Consolidated Revenue Fund</i> (\$3,376,892.50)—	
Dominion of Canada (\$1,004,303.58)—	
Subsidy . . . . .	\$ 838,247 06
School Lands Fund . . . . .	166,056 52
Department of Attorney-General (\$374,359.57)—	
Fines . . . . .	20,676 53
County Court Fees . . . . .	22,623 95
Law fees . . . . .	19,047 26
Land Titles, fees . . . . .	205,887 18
Liquor licenses . . . . .	106,124 65
Department of Agriculture (\$29,556.23)—	
Fees . . . . .	15,801 15
Marriage licenses . . . . .	5,110 50
Agricultural College fees . . . . .	8,644 58
Department of Education—	
Normal and Model School fees . . . . .	23,841 05
Legislation—	
Private Bills . . . . .	2,900 00
Department of Provincial Secretary (\$41,273.51)—	
Fees . . . . .	28,467 00
<i>Manitoba Gazette</i> . . . . .	11,999 32
Statutes . . . . .	807 19
Provincial Lands Department—	
Provincial Lands . . . . .	515,298 80
Department of Public Works (\$196,742.12)—	
Support of Insane . . . . .	162,986 46
Support of Deaf and Dumb . . . . .	12,148 65
Support of Incurables . . . . .	9,312 86
Public Institutions . . . . .	12,294 15
Treasury Department (\$409,962.41)—	
Interest . . . . .	\$ 84,314 15
Succession duties . . . . .	52,004 22
Insurance Act fees . . . . .	26,505 51
Fire prevention . . . . .	6,599 55
Corporation tax . . . . .	83,791 14

Railway tax . . . . .	139,112 20	
Refunds . . . . .	2,916 00	
Land Titles Assurance Fund—		
Revenue Account . . . . .	12,000 00	
Sundry revenue . . . . .	2,219 64	
Municipal Commissioner—		
Automobile licenses . . . . .	3,000 00	
Department of Telephones and Telegraphs—		
Rentals, etc. . . . .	775,655 23	
		\$3,376,892 30

### EXPENDITURE, 1909

#### Legislation—

Members . . . . .	\$ 41,835 26	
Salaries . . . . .	6,623 85	
Expenses . . . . .	2,314 98	
Printing and binding . . . . .	18,467 19	
Audit Office . . . . .	4,787 92	
Library and Museum . . . . .	7,239 62	
		\$ 81,268 76

#### Executive Council—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 3,800 00	
Office expenses . . . . .	171 30	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	15,936 77	
		19,908 07

#### Treasury Department—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 17,480 00	
Office expenses . . . . .	2,778 19	
Grants . . . . .	12,650 00	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	64,299 84	
Specially authorized . . . . .	388,849 22	
		\$ 486,057 25

#### Provincial Secretary's Department—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 10,060 00	
Office expenses . . . . .	1,575 37	
		11,635 37

#### Department of Education—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 10,834 74	
Office expenses . . . . .	2,498 22	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	46,555 38	
Training schools . . . . .	57,003 36	
Grants . . . . .	312,882 72	
Miscellaneous grants . . . . .	634 83	
		430,409 25

## Department of Agriculture and Immigration—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 10,660 00
Office expenses . . . . .	1,180 63
Agriculture and Statistics . . . . .	53,163 81
Agricultural College . . . . .	51,975 46
Immigration . . . . .	25,974 92
Grants . . . . .	111,518 75
Miscellaneous . . . . .	12,858 96

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 237 332 53

## Department of Attorney-General—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 10,740 00
Expenses . . . . .	2,750 59
L. T. O., Winnipeg . . . . .	56,992 06
L. T. O., Portage la Prairie . . . . .	8,471 18
L. T. O., Brandon . . . . .	11,375 00
L. T. O., Morden . . . . .	8,247 51
L. T. O., Boissevain . . . . .	6,200 59
L. T. O., Neepawa . . . . .	11,861 49
L. T. O., Carman . . . . .	6,869 31
L. T. O., General . . . . .	4,791 80
Law Courts . . . . .	41,289 40
Police Courts . . . . .	10,946 52
Police . . . . .	25,603 16
License . . . . .	29,958 95
Gaols . . . . .	26,543 40
Administration of Justice . . . . .	104,286 55
Miscellaneous . . . . .	2,966 81
Prisoners' aid . . . . .	500 00
Neglected children and salaries . . . . .	8,774 49
Fire Commissioner and expenses . . . . .	6,733 39

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 385,902 29

## Department of Provincial Lands—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 6,305 00
Miscellaneous . . . . .	11,052 38

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 17,357 38

## Railway Commissioner's Department—

Deputy Commissioner . . . . .	\$ 800 00
Office expenses . . . . .	17 80

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 817 80

## Department of Telephones and Telgraphs—

Operation, etc. . . . .	485,000 66
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## Department of Public Works—

Salaries . . . . .	\$ 22,145 00
Architect's office . . . . .	3,448 07
Expenses . . . . .	2,058 14
General employees, etc. . . . .	13,155 55
Maintenance of Legislative and Departmental buildings . . . . .	3,806 92
Maintenance Government House . . . . .	3,563 18
Maintenance Court House . . . . .	6,291 91
Maintenance Gaol . . . . .	983 72
Maintenance Court House, Gaol, etc., fuel account . . . . .	5,619 11

## Maintenance Agricultural College —

fuel account . . . . .	10,688 72
Maintenance Court House and Gaol, Brandon . . . . .	3,023 75
Maintenance Court House, Gaol and Reformatory, Portage la Prairie . . . . .	9,469 86
Maintenance Court House and Gaol, Morden . . . . .	1,067 85
Maintenance Court House and Gaol, Minnedosa . . . . .	870 60
Maintenance Land Titles Offices . . . . .	4,422 86

## Asylum for the Insane Selkirk—

Salaries . . . . .	23,163 88
Maintenance . . . . .	47,942 68

## Asylum for the Insane, Brandon—

Salaries . . . . .	35,101 29
Maintenance . . . . .	107,799 77

## Deaf and Dumb Institute—

Salaries . . . . .	12,960 00
Maintenance . . . . .	13,944 05
Home for Incurables, salaries . . . . .	13,317 59
Home for Incurables, maintenance . . . . .	26,281 71
Miscellaneous . . . . .	9,367 56
Training School, Portage la Prairie, maintenance . . . . .	421 25
Taxes . . . . .	2,949 21
Insurance . . . . .	28,140 76

Advertising .. . . .	1,090 78	
Blind children .. . . .	944 32	
Aid to municipalities and public works .. . . .	149,785 93	
	<hr/>	563,826 02

Department of Municipal Commissioner—		
Deputy Commissioner .. . . .	\$ 2,000 00	
Stenographer.. . . .	660 00	
Office expenses .. . . .	599 20	
	<hr/>	3,259 20
		<hr/>
		\$2,752,773 83

Making the account stand as follows:

Revenue .....	\$3,376,892 50
Expenditure .....	2,752,773 83
	<hr/>
Surplus .....	\$ 624,118 67

### ESTIMATED REVENUE OF PROVINCE FOR 1910

Dominion of Canada—

Subsidy.. . . .	\$ 838,247 06	
School Lands .. . . .	180,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,018,247 06

Attorney-General's Department—

Fines.. . . .	\$ 20,000 00	
County Court Fees.. . . .	23,000 00	
Law Fees.. . . .	20,000 00	
Land Titles, General Fees .. . . .	230,000 00	
Liquor Licenses .. . . .	104,000 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 379,000 00

Department of Agriculture and Immigration—

Fees.. . . .	\$ 16,000 00	
Marriage Licenses.. . . .	5,000 00	
Agricultural College.. . . .	6,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$ 27,500 00

Department of Education—

Normal and Model School Fees...	22,000 00
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## Legislation—

Private Bills.. . . . .	2,500 00
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## Provincial Secretary's Department—

Fees.. . . . .	\$ 27,500 00
<i>Manitoba Gazette</i> .. . . . .	12,000 00
Sale of Statutes .. . . . .	750 00
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	\$ 40,250 00

## Department of Provincial Lands—

Provincial Lands.. . . . .	\$ 450,000 00
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## Department of Public Works—

Support of Insane.. . . . .	\$ 160,000 00
Support of Incurables .. . . . .	10,000 00
Support of Deaf and Dumb .. . . . .	13,000 00
Public Institutions—Revenue Ac-	
count.. . . . .	7,500 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 190,500 00

## Treasury Department—

Interest.. . . . .	\$ 85,000 00
Succession Duty.. . . . .	60,000 00
Insurance Act fees.. . . . .	25,000 00
Fire Prevention.. . . . .	6,600 00
Corporation Tax .. . . . .	84,000 00
Railway Tax.. . . . .	150,000 00
Refunds.. . . . .	2,000 00
Sundry Revenue.. . . . .	2,500 00
Land Titles Assurance Fund	
(Revenue) .. . . . .	10,000 00
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	\$ 425,100 00

## Department of Municipal Commissioner—

Automobile licenses.. . . . .	3,000 00
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## Department of Telephones and Telegraphs—

Telephone Rentals, etc. . . . .	850,000 00
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Total.. . . . .	<hr/>	\$3,426,097 00
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**Over a Million and a Quarter Dollars Expended on Public Buildings in Ten Years Out of Accumulated Surpluses—  
A Stupendous Showing**

	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909
Asylum, Brandon.....	\$ 2,125.47	\$1,827.86	\$ 2,828.28	6,179.66	32,980.69	60,566.68	25,906.11	24,621.88	38,535.36	23,047.77
" " Selkirk.....	2,833.88	858.06	13,326.51	19,179.92	18,175.96	5,018.79	1,248.38	1,232.50	15,038.55	37,445.52
Agricultural College.....				15,028.50	1,891.35	99,078.61	176,430.15	164,813.95	123,354.31	43,940.89
Deaf and Dumb.....		19,190.11	2,614.90	363.61	917.97	5,629.59	5,236.72	2,740.58	5,357.87	2,056.27
Home for Incurables.....		1,112.51	3,758.03	1,141.28	26,895.66	39,760.11	1,693.13	12,080.35	10,774.82	6,018.10
Industrial School.....	670.40					9,000.55	4,009.32	5,600.38	64,163.05	53,683.76
Lieutenant Gov. Residence.....		6,154.66							15,991.56	2,349.30
Land Titles Offices, Winnipeg.....			1,318.01		307.52	58,105.38	2,142.68	2,013.23	740.80	1,095.40
" " Brandon.....						30.00	31.00	322.60	137.50	79.68
" " P. la Prairie.....							2,138.42	3,566.95	115.34	
" " Morden.....					35.40		35.00			109.80
" " Boissevain.....		456.11				3,414.20	402.35	29.10	71.00	30.00
" " Neepawa.....						6,338.60	12,805.43	419.08	187.00	
" " Carman.....						32.17		231.00		
Normal School, Winnipeg.....				422.43		51,299.72	51,374.57	7,367.13		
" " St. Boniface.....			3,400.10	11,873.10	300.00					
" " Manitoba.....			804.75	11,380.10	5,518.05					
Parliament Buildings.....	10,878.10				2,599.39	4,279.74		3,884.23	350.50	32,162
Court House and Jails.....								8,331.79	6,493.74	1,550.35
	16,507.85	32,599.31	28,050.56	65,408.50	90,199.47	89,344.14	283,513.26	237,256.75	281,311.50	171,707.45
									Total	\$1,295,958.74



**THE SPLENDID FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE PROVINCE OF  
MANITOBA. SALE OF PROVINCIAL STOCK AT FIGURE  
UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER PROVINCE IN  
THE DOMINION**

The financial standing of the Province of Manitoba has been steadily improving since the Roblin Government assumed office, until today it is superior to that of any other province in the Dominion. At the session of 1909 the Government decided to sell bonds as Manitoba stock, instead of offering the bonds of every issue separately, and on this plan a sale took place in April last when One Million Pounds of Manitoba stock was placed on the market in London, England. The success of the undertaking was greater than was anticipated, the stock being rapidly subscribed for at the rate of 103, a record not only for the province but also exceeding the figures obtained by the other provinces and showing the favor with which Manitoba's financial position is viewed by the financiers of the old land, and also verifying the belief of the Government that the new plan would appeal more to the British investor and place the province's credit on a still more solid and substantial basis.

Manitoba's splendid position with regard to her finances can be no better illustrated than by quoting from the budget speech delivered in the Legislature on February 22 last by Hon. Hugh Armstrong, Provincial Treasurer. Mr. Armstrong said in part:

"During last year, Mr. Speaker, the Government sold by tender provincial securities to the amount of \$2,041,633.34 in three separate lots, the first lot amounting to \$761,633.34, of which \$261,826.67 was for judicial district purposes, and \$499,806.67 for the extension of the Telephone system. The second lot of bonds amounting to \$1,030,000, was sold for drainage purposes, mostly for reclaiming lands in two new drainage districts lying to the west of Lake Manitoba and comprising 521,522 acres, and the third lot in the form of treasury bills amounting to \$250,000, was for telephone construction. The custom in the past with regard to the selling of provincial securities has been to offer for sale when money has been required for other than straight governmental requirements, such as for drainage or for judicial district purposes, drainage bonds or judicial district bonds, guaranteed by the Government. It was felt that these bonds though carrying the guarantee of the Government did not sell so well as straight Government bonds, and this year Government securities were sold instead of guaranteed bonds as in the old way, and the expectations of the Government were fully realized by the results accruing from the sale of securities offered, the first lot having been purchased by the Ontario Securities Company at 99.51, and the second and third lots by the Canadian Bank of Commerce at par, and these figures are for four per cent. bonds and treasury bills, cash paid

to the Government in Winnipeg without exchange or brokers' commission.

"I need not say that the Government is pleased at the prices realized, because it is, with one exception, the best price ever realized by any Government in Manitoba for its securities and a better price than has ever been realized by any western province, and so far as I know, or can find out, by any province in the Dominion up to the present time, the Province of Ontario having during the past year, and it is the most populous and wealthy province in the Dominion, made a stock flotation and the prices realized for their four per cent. stock netted them 99½ cents on the dollar.

"Such sales as those made during the past year justify us in believing that the financial world has confidence not only in the credit and resources of Manitoba, but further that our credit is being well maintained by the method of handling the affairs of the province adopted by the government of the day.

#### **An Increased Telephone Expenditure**

"A year ago the Government Telephone Commission estimated that they would expend on construction the sum of \$750,000 and we only sold \$500,000 worth of bonds for this purpose, as we had on hand at the beginning of the year the sum of \$264,763.49 in trust held at the credit of the commission. We subsequently, and in contemplation of a larger issue of securities for telephone purposes sold treasury bills, bearing four per cent., as authorized under our Provincial Loans Act passed by the Legislature at the last session of the House, amounting to \$250,000, and for these treasury bills we also realized par. Such, however, was the demand for the extension of the system, that the Government found itself confronted about the middle of August last with the alternative of permitting the commission to exceed its estimate of expenditure or stop further construction. It was not deemed wise to stop construction, and consequently we authorized for the commission an overdraft with the Union Bank of Canada up to \$500,000, and they availed themselves up to \$367,173.69, making a total expended by the Telephone Commission on construction of nearly \$1,500,000, and later on I shall deal with the amount that is deemed necessary to expend during the coming year.

#### **Revenues of Province Buoyant**

"I am glad to be able to announce that the revenues of the Government have been exceedingly buoyant during the past year, the revenues having in fact exceeded the estimated revenue by \$209,445.44. This is owing to increases of revenue from nearly all sources from which the government derives a revenue, the only two items that were over-estimated being that of fines, which fell short by \$4,323.47,—and there is a reason for this—and the revenue from succession duties, and this latter is in no way under our control, and the revenue from

other sources has been much greater than anticipated. Notable among the increases are the revenue from the land titles offices, and from the department of the Provincial Secretary, the revenue from land titles offices being \$28,646.70 greater than in 1908, and \$25,887.10 more than estimated, but most notable of all was the increase of revenue from the department of the Provincial Secretary, which amounted during the last year to \$28,467, or \$11,426.50 more than in 1908, and more than the total or gross revenue received from that department from the time of its being established in 1870 up to the end of 1899, a period of thirty years.

### **Conservative Expenditure**

“Besides this, Mr. Speaker, the Government expenditure for the year 1909 on consolidated revenue and capital account together was less than the estimated expenditure by the sum of \$172,676.19, and the net result is that the Government is able to show for the year 1909 of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure the largest surplus shown in any year of the history of the province, this surplus amounting to \$624,118.67, and just here, Mr. Speaker, I wish to refer briefly to a statement, a most extraordinary statement, or rather series of statements, made by a gentleman on the opposite side of the house last year, in an attempted criticism of the budget speech of that year. This gentleman said: ‘Funds have been used for other purposes than originally intended, general expenses have been met out of private accounts, there are immediate debts to face and not enough money to meet them with, and little prospect of meeting them out of next year’s receipts.’ Mr. Speaker, I think this same gentleman afterwards complained that we on this side of the house, did not listen to his arguments. Sir, I ask you if it is any wonder if such statements as these are to be called arguments? I say that never in listening to or reading a speech made by the most irresponsible political novice have I heard or seen more in the way of either ignorance or intentional misrepresentation crowded into so small a space. I will pass over the first two mis-statements, and this is the mildest term applicable to them, merely saying that if they are true the Government or the individual member of the Government guilty may readily be called to account. and refer for a brief moment to the last that, ‘there are immediate debts to face and not enough money to meet them and little prospect of meeting them out of next year’s receipts.’

“Mr. Speaker, when I said that we could pay off these two sets of bonds which mature July 1 of this year, I meant it, and I now say that we will pay them off without borrowing one dollar for the purpose.

### **How the Surplus of 1910 Is Arrived At**

“For the year 1909 we received on consolidated revenue account the sum of \$3,376,898.50, and expended on same account \$2,752,723.82, showing a surplus of \$624,168.67.



"Or it may be shown in this way:

"On December 31, 1909, we had an excess of revenue over expenditure for the year:

General revenues .....	\$3,376,892 50
Receipts on ledger accounts .....	141,930 22
Total .....	\$3,518,822 72
General or consolidated revenue expenditure.....	\$2,752,773 83
Ledger accounts expenditure .....	151,314 72
Capital expenditure .....	171,983 73
Total .....	\$3,076,072 28
Making an excess of .....	442,750 44
Excess of expenditure on ledger accounts as shown above	9,384 50
Expenditure on capital accounts .....	171,983 73
Or a total of .....	\$624,168 67

**BONDS OF PROVINCE MATURING THIS YEAR WILL BE  
PROMPTLY MET AND PAID OUT OF ACCUMULATED  
SURPLUSES.**

The following comprehensive statement is appropriately reproduced to show that the Province is in a position to pay and will pay certain debentures of the Province maturing this year. In the course of his budget speech in the Legislature during last session, Hon. Hugh Armstrong, the Provincial Treasurer, referred to this matter as follows:

"I made the statement last year, Mr. Speaker, that there was money in our trust funds to pay off the Southwestern Railway bonds amounting to \$899,846.66. Did the honorable gentleman doubt the truth of this statement? I said there was a balance at the end of the year 1908 of \$940,218.97, of cash, in the consolidated revenue fund of the province, and that we could pay off the Manitoba and Northwestern debentures out of this fund, when they matured, July 1, of this year. Did the honorable gentleman think this statement not in accordance with the facts? If he believed these statements, then I would like him to tell me and to tell the house what other debts there were that the Government was liable for and would be unable to meet, because so far, sir, the accounts have not been presented, and I have not been able to discover the indebtedness to which he referred. Sir, I say that such statements should not be made with deliberation and apparent gravity by any member of this or any other legislative body. They are unworthy and out of place, and the man who utters

them is doing no harm to the statements he is endeavoring to criticize and is besides doing an injustice to himself.

“Mr. Speaker, when I said that we could pay off these two sets of bonds, which mature July 1 of this year, I meant it, and I now say that we will pay them off without borrowing one dollar for the purpose.

“There had been paid out of the consolidated revenues of this Province and still remain unpaid at May 9, 1899, when the Government took over 542,560 acres of the lands of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway Company, in settlement of their debentures and interest liability the sum of \$479,488.06. and the Government have since paid the interest on these debentures each half year which, with compound interest added amounts at the present time to \$1,460,118.19, and the bonds themselves with the next six months' interest, which are payable with charges at July 1, will amount to \$849,181.81, making a total then at the debit of this account of \$2,309,300 in round figures, and I cannot give the exact figure until we make the final settlement, because of our having to stand for, under arrangements made, a commission for retirement of bonds, and to arrange for remitting money, etc.

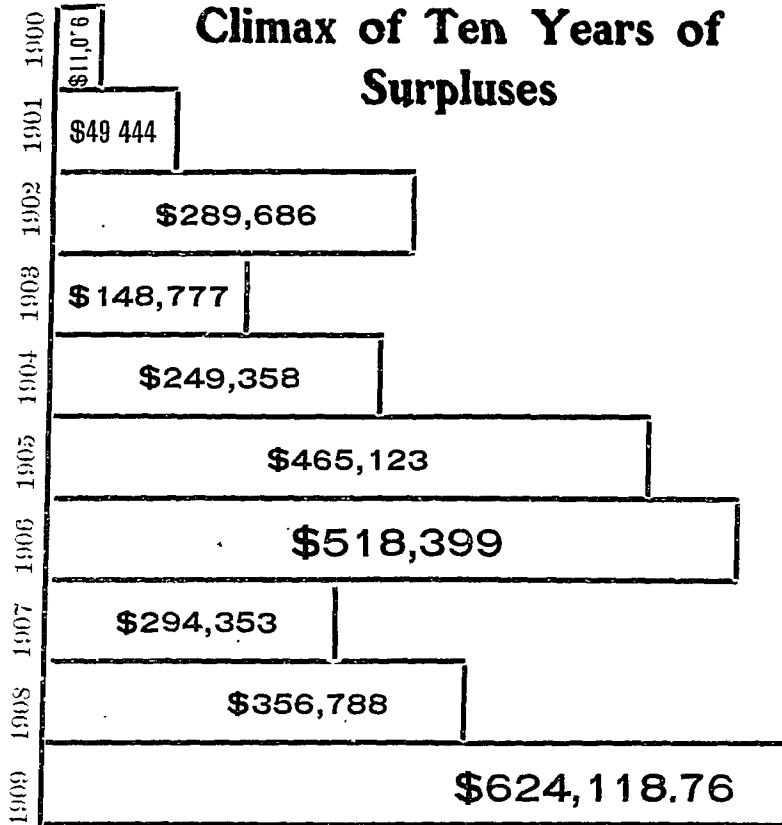
“We have received from the sale of Manitoba and Northwestern lands of principal and interest up to December 31 last year, \$1,498,758.34, and we have still to collect on account of these lands sold, \$803,819.63, making a total of \$2,302,577.97, and there is still left to sell 77,492 acres of an average value as listed on the books of the land commissioner's department of about \$6.50 per acre, amounting to \$503,698.

“But sir, we are going further than this. There also falls due this year the old Hudson Bay Railway bonds, amounting to \$255,986.66, and we are going to pay this out of the surpluses accumulated by the Government in the consolidated revenue of the Province. I ask, sir, what more would you have? What more can anyone ask? Since 1900 this Government with the exception of \$500,000 borrowed that year, the half of which was used for paying a deficit of the former Government, has not borrowed a cent for purposes of ordinary expenditure. It has given liberally to hospitals, in aid of agriculture, in aid of municipalities for roads and bridges, for education. It has spent the large sum of \$1,524,653.97 in public buildings and on December 31 of last year it had at its credit besides trust funds in the banks of the Province, \$1,373,986.30, and for the information of the house I will say that this balance last night had grown to \$1,649,118.80, and it has not ‘used moneys for other purposes than originally intended,’ nor ‘met general expenses out of private accounts,’ nor has it any debts it cannot pay.



HON. HUGH ARMSTRONG, Provincial Treasurer

## Climax of Ten Years of Surpluses



The stupendous surplus of over Three Million Dollars accumulated in 10 years.

When the Greenway Government went out of office they left a deficit of over a million.

### DIRECT GRANTS TO THE PEOPLE OF GIGANTIC PROPORTIONS

Year	Grants—Charitable and Hospitals	Schools	Aid of Municipalities
1900.....	\$ 51,744 14	\$245,143 21	\$ 66,411 95
1901.....	51,748 02	137,853 89	36,943 90
1902.....	53,725 11	259,438 46	48,009 19
1903.....	88,363 49	182,746 87	75,411 82
1904.....	88,862 42	219,811 73	68,637 99
1905.....	99,862 90	269,065 54	91,096 35
1906.....	102,382 55	265,564 74	120,516 08
1907.....	116,236 60	291,522 40	142,749 42
1908.....	123,377 48	330,065 51	216,203 91
1909.....	111,518 75	370,520 91	149,785 93
Total.....	\$887,821 46	\$2,571,733 26	\$1,015,766 54

Average per annum:—

Charitable and Hospitals .....	\$ 88,782 14
Schools .....	257,173 32
Municipalities .....	101,576 65
Total .....	<u>\$447,532.11</u>

Nearly half a million annually given direct to the people by straight grants.

#### HOW THE REVENUE HAS GONE UP UNDER THE ROBLIN GOVERNMENT

1899—Greenway .....	\$ 776,233 85
1900—Roblin .....	905,331 06
1901— “ .....	1,008,653 35
1902— “ .....	1,433,255 96
1903— “ .....	1,352,217 58
1904— “ .....	1,486,667 12
1905— “ .....	1,860,899 92
1906— “ .....	2,089,652 07
1907— “ .....	2,118,734 12
1908— “ .....	2,891,582 25
1909— “ .....	3,376,892 50

#### A STRIKING EXAMPLE OF THE BUSINESSLIKE METHODS OF THE ROBLIN GOVERNMENT

Department of Provincial Secretary Turns a Grit Deficit of Over \$50,000 Into a Surplus of Over \$74,000

	Years	
Total receipts of former Government.....	11½	\$ 22,222 75
Total expenses of former Government.....	11½	73,684 36
Deficit .....		<u>\$ 51,461 61</u>
Total receipts of Roblin Government.....	10	\$152,472 30
Total expenses of Roblin Government.....	10	- 78,448 55
Surplus .....		<u>\$ 74,023 75</u>

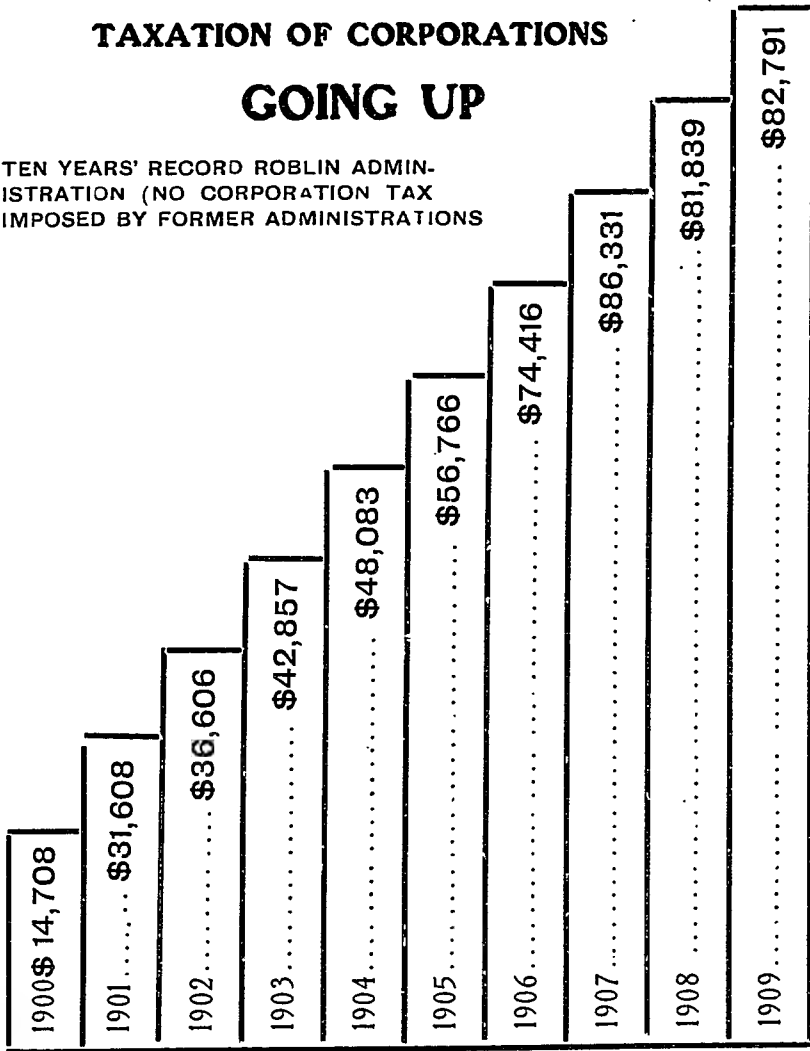
The Greenway Government spent \$3 to collect \$1.

The Roblin Government only spent 50 cents to collect \$1.



## TAXATION OF CORPORATIONS GOING UP

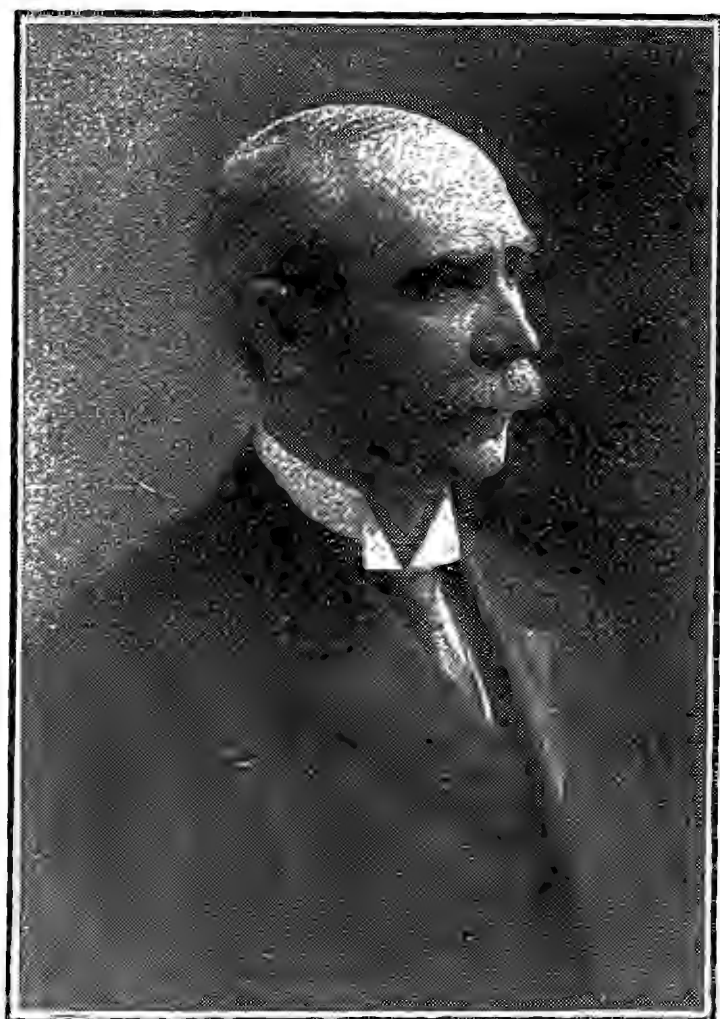
TEN YEARS' RECORD ROBLIN ADMIN-  
ISTRATION (NO CORPORATION TAX  
IMPOSED BY FORMER ADMINISTRATIONS)



### ALL LEGITIMATE REQUESTS OF MUNICIPALITIES FOR AID ALWAYS GRANTED BY ROBLIN GOVERNMENT

Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works, stated as follows, speaking at Portage la Prairie on the 15th December, 1906:—

“I stand here in the face of this audience tonight, as Minister of Public works for this Province, to make the statement that no municipality in the Province has made a legitimate request for aid that I have not been able to meet.” (Great cheering.)



HON. ROBT. ROGERS, Minister of Public Works

## A REMARKABLE SHOWING

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### The Roblin Government Piles up Annual Surpluses

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The total surplus of the Roblin Government for the ten years, 1900 to 1909 inclusive, is the large sum of \$3,007,105.77 made up as follows:

1909.....	\$ 11,056 31
1901.....	49,444 73
1902.....	289,686 34
1903.....	148,777 83
1904.....	249,358 44
1905.....	465,123 02
1906.....	518,399 43
1907.....	294,358 00
1908.....	356,788 00
1909.....	624,118 67

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What a contrast to conditions prevailing prior to 1900!

The Greenway Government during its term of office piled up the enormous deficit of a round million of dollars.

Speaking in the Legislature in 1901, the late John A. Davidson, former Provincial Treasurer, said as follows in referring to the Greenway deficits:

“The net proceeds of the loan, as claimed by the late Treasurer were \$2,496,600, which leaves a balance of \$748,801.39 of a deficit in that connection. Add to this the actual cash deficit of \$248,186.40, and we have a total deficit of \$997,837.79.

“Now as you will see, by the figures given above, there is just about a round million of dollars unaccounted for, which is the aggregate of the deficits of the Greenway Government during their term of office.”

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### HOW THE GRIT OPPONENTS MAKE THE GOVERNMENT'S SURPLUS DISAPPEAR

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The opponents of the Roblin Government, confronted, as they are, with incontrovertible facts and figures of the annual surpluses piled

up, reach out and work overtime in the attempt to prove that it is all a delusion, a myth. They say if the revenue from the lands, from the taxation of railways and corporations, and from other sources, were not taken into consideration, and made to form a part of the consolidated revenue of the Province, there would be no surplus. Napoleons of finance are these gentlemen. They might go still further and aver that if the Government had no revenue at all it would have liabilities. Of course, it is quite regular and proper for our public lands to be exploited by the Ottawa Government and the proceeds devoted to Dominion purposes—for instance, to construct roads and bridges in Quebec, dredges in New Brunswick, for the benefit of Mr. Pugsley, and lighthouses in Nova Scotia. In Manitoba, however, this Light Brigade of modern financiers claim it to be an outrage for the Roblin Government to devote the revenue derived from legitimate sources to build roads and bridges for the farmers of Manitoba, to equip an agricultural college, to maintain our schools to a high standard, to assist our hospitals and give grants to charities. The Roblin Government thinks otherwise. The issue is well defined. It is for the people to say which policy they prefer.

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**STRIKING SENTENCES SELECTED FROM THE BUDGET SPEECH  
OF THE PROVINCIAL TREASURER IN DELIVERING  
BUDGET OF 1910.**

“The Government expenditure for the year 1909 on consolidated revenue and capital account together was less than the estimated expenditure by the sum of \$172,673.19, and the net result is that the Government is able to show for the year 1909 of ordinary revenue over ordinary expenditure the largest surplus shown in any year of the history of the Province, this surplus amounting to \$624,118.67.

“I need not say that the Government is pleased at the prices realized for its securities this year, because it is, with one exception, the best price realized by any Government in Manitoba, and a better price than has ever been realized by any Western Provinces, and so far as I know and can find one, by any Province in the Dominion up to the present time, the Province of Ontario having, during the past year, and it is the most populous and wealthy Province in the Dominion, made a stock flotation and the prices realized for their four per cent. stock netted them 99½ cents on the dollar.

“I am glad to be able to announce that the revenues of the Government have been exceedingly buoyant during the past year, the revenue having in fact exceeded the estimated revenue by \$209,445.44. This is owing to increases of revenue from nearly all sources from which the Government derives a revenue.

“We received during the past year from sources that were not

exploited from former Governments, such as the taxation of railways, corporations, etc., the sum of nearly \$250,000, and these sources of revenue have provided since 1900 the very large sum of \$1,268,987.20, and these receipts go a very long way towards accounting for the total surplus of \$3,007,105.77 that has been accounted for during the past ten years.

"It is believed, and the Government is so advised by those most familiar with the methods of finance preferred in London, that the Province will realize more for its securities by selling them in the form of stock, which may be registered in London, and transferred on books kept for that purpose in London, than they will by pursuing the old method of advertising odd lots of bonds for sale by tender from time to time.

"The users of the telephone are enjoying cheaper rates and an enlarged and extended service, and it is the purpose of the Government to extend the system, having due regard to the economy of construction, to all parts of the Province, so that all may be equally benefitted by the enjoyment of a service that is at once a necessity and a luxury, and it is our purpose, while from time to time we will doubtless be able to make reductions, to charge such rates for the telephone service that we may always earn for the people of the Province, who are the owners of the telephone system, a fair margin in the cost of operation.

"The importance, the vital importance of the extension of Manitoba's boundaries is recognized, when I say that in view of lands the Western Provinces received, during their last fiscal years, from the Dominion the sum of \$468,750, while we receive \$100,000, and as time goes on and the population of the Western Provinces increases, the amounts received by Saskatchewan and Alberta will increase under their arrangements to \$1,125,000 annually, while our allowance must remain, if no readjustment is arrived at, at \$100,000 per year, and besides this they have arrangements with the Dominion as to capital on which they receive \$226,427.94 more than we receive.

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### **BUSINESS-LIKE METHODS OF ROBLIN GOVERNMENT**

It was one of the planks of the Conservative platform, adopted in 1899, that the affairs of the Province be administered in a business-like manner, and it has been largely due to this that the Roblin Government has been so successful. Upon assuming office in 1900, it was found that the revenues of the Province could, and should, be largely added to. The large corporations, such as railways, banks, loan, fire, investment, express, telegraph and telephone companies,—all deriving

large revenues from the people, paid nothing towards the support of government, while enjoying all the advantages thereof. Accordingly the present Government instead of fostering these railway and other companies and enabling them to pay larger dividends, drawn from the people of the Province, to foreign stockholders, taxes them. This very materially adds to the annual income of the Province, and assists the Government greatly in being able to make such a splendid showing.

### **Railways and Corporations Taxed**

The revenue derived from this source, during the year 1900 to 1909, inclusive, is:—

	Railway Taxation	Corporation Taxation
1900.....	\$ 16,000 00	\$ 14,708 54
1901.....	25,559 65	31,608 92
1902.....	30,099 14	36,608 08
1903.....	65,000 52	42,857 46
1904.....	63,619 60	48,083 64
1905.....	66,351 38	56,766 31
1906.....	84,150 48	74,416 20
1907.....	95,875 33	86,331 86
1908.....	107,815 52	81,839 82
1909.....	139,112 20	83,791 14
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$693,583 82	\$557,011 97

A total for both purposes of \$1,250,595.79, and wholly given to the people of the Province.

Until the Roblin Government came into power not a dollar of revenue was received from railway and other corporations.

### **UNFAIR TREATMENT OF MANITOBA BY THE DOMINION AUTHORITIES**

#### **What the Western Provinces Receive from the Dominion**

	Manitoba	Alberta	Saskatchewan
		1909	
In support of Government	\$190,000 00	\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000 00
Subsidy . . . . .	369,300 00	200,000	206,201 40
Interest on capital acct. . .	178,947 06	405,375	405,375 00
In lien of lands . . . . .	100,000 00	375,000	375,000 00
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$838,247 06	\$1,160,375	\$1,176,585 00

or a difference, in favor of Alberta of \$322,027.94, and Saskatchewan of \$338,337.94.

### **Provincial Treasurer Shows How Province Suffers in the matter of Subsidy**

The dissimilarity of treatment accorded to Manitoba by the Dominion Government in the matter of subsidy as compared with the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan was brought to the attention of the Legislature by the Provincial Treasurer, Hon. Hugh Armstrong, in the course of his budget speech, delivered in February last. Mr. Armstrong said:—

“ The honorable gentleman (the member for Arthur), cited the fact that besides our swamp lands we receive annually the sum of \$100,000 and that Alberta and Saskatchewan receive annually the sum of \$375,000, but, sir, that gentleman did not inform the House, and it may be that it is because he has been up till now ignorant of the fact, that the allowance for or on account of lands in the Western Provinces increases as the population of these Provinces increases, until finally, when their population reaches 1,200,000 or over, and I fancy that this date may not be very far distant, they will be receiving \$1,125,000 instead of \$375,300, or a difference annually of \$1,025,000 every year, and I ask the honorable gentleman if he calls this fair and equitable treatment, and I submit, sir, that honorable gentlemen on the other side of the House instead of assuming the attitude, which they do, with regard to those questions, should join hand in hand with men on this side of the House in demanding and insisting on our rights in this regard.

“ But, sir, this is not all. These Provinces have an account at Ottawa called a capital account, upon which they receive interest at the rate of five per cent—that is, a certain capitalization is arrived at and agreed on upon which the Government pays the Provinces interest at the rate of 5 per cent—and in the case of Saskatchewan and Alberta, this capital is \$8,107,500, and in Manitoba’s case it is \$3,578,941.30, so that Alberta and Saskatchewan are today receiving in the way of interest on capital \$405,375, besides some \$93,000 extra granted them for five years, while Manitoba receives \$178,947.06, or a difference of there \$226,427.94, to say nothing of the \$93,000 extra for five years, and which may or may not be continued, or a total annual difference of \$1,251,427.94. And yet an honorable gentleman will stand up in his place on the other side of the House and say that we are being treated on a basis of equality.”

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## SCHOOL BOOKS ARE SUPPLIED TO SCHOLARS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS AT SMALL COST

The Province during the year 1909 entered into a new contract for school books, and as an evidence of the attention paid by the Government to the conservation and wise expenditure of the money of the people it will not be out of place to give a comparison between the price paid by the Roblin Government and the government of Saskatchewan, a few years ago, and for the price that Manitoba will receive books that will be fully as good in every respect, if not better than those purchased by the Government of the Province of Saskatchewan.

The prices paid by the Governments of Manitoba and Saskatchewan for school books are as follows:—

	Saskatchewan	Manitoba
Primer.....	14.4	9½
First Reader.....	17.4	11¾
Second Reader.....	19.9	13½
Third Reader.....	25	17¾
Fourth Reader.....	28.8	18½

And the retail prices of these books in the two Provinces will be as follows:—

	Saskatchewan	Manitoba
Primer .....	20c	15c
First Reader.....	25	20
Second Reader.....	30	25
Third Reader .....	40	30
Fourth Reader .....	45	30

It will be seen from these figures that the difference in price paid both by the Government and the user of the books means an average saving of 35 per cent. to the people of the Province of Manitoba.

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## MISERABLE GRIT CALUMNIES AGAINST HON. MR. ROGERS SHATTERED BY PLAIN STATEMENT OF FACTS

At the 1910 session of the Legislature a vile insinuation was made that Mr. Rogers and Mr. Roblin were interested in a certain land deal in connection with Hon. Dr. Montague. Mr. Rogers in his place in the House face to face with his traducers fully explained his position with regard to the matter with which his name had been connected by the muck-rakers. It was a sorry fizzle to the grand stand thunder devised of deliberately slandering Mr. Rogers and injuring his character. Mr. Rogers read the following letter of Dr. Montague:



WINNIPEG, March 15th, 1910.

My Dear Sir:

With regard to the matter referred to in the Foster-Macdonald libel action in Toronto, as it seems likely now that the committee of your house does not intend to ask me for a statement in connection with it, I desire to say to you that the following are in brief the facts:

1. I was endeavoring to form a private syndicate for the purpose of buying some lands belonging to the Manitoba and Northwest Land Grant, which lands I was informed by an expert land man here were good lands and fairly well situated.

2. I informally asked Hon. Mr. Roblin and yourself to invest in the syndicate.

3. When the plan was changed and the lands turned over for the investment of Forrester funds, I mentioned to the two parties principally interested the offer I had made to you and Mr. Roblin to become interested, and it was agreed that as regards the lands as to which I had spoken to you, the matter should be left in such a shape that you might be interested if you wished. Hence the mentioning of your names in the document referred to and as to the making of which neither of you were aware.

4. Some considerable time afterwards I happened to see you in Winnipeg and mentioned the matter to you. You then informed me that you could not take an interest in the syndicate, and that you were quite sure that Mr. Roblin had not intended to be interested and would not be. I therefore, I think, did not mention the matter to him again.

5. When the lands were subsequently dealt with neither yourself nor Mr. Roblin were considered.

6. I subsequently bought a large block of lands from the Forresters, (including the land bought from the Manitoba and Northwestern Land Grant), and at that time asked Mr. Roblin to join me and he declined to do so.

7. The lands which I purchased from the Manitoba Government and referred to in the document mentioned, were bought at the ordinary price at which the lands were offered in the Provincial Lands Department, and that price was higher than I afterwards bought better lands for from private individuals and from the railway company.

8. The lands were bought by me on the usual terms. I did ask Mr. Roblin for an option upon a certain block of lands in order that I might make selections, but this he refused upon the ground that the

department had a fixed price, terms and plan of sale, which could not be departed from.

9. Subsequently, I asked Mr. Roblin that I be given a small discount for cash, and this was refused.

10. The lands were paid for to the Provincial Government long before the purchase price was due.

Not only was no rebate allowed, but the Provincial Department, I am informed, owing to their being unable to get title from the Dominion Government to certain of the lands held a considerable sum of money in their possession for a couple of years without giving transfer, thus occasioning a loss to those interested.

11. The above covers all negotiations with regard to Provincial lands which I have ever had with either yourself, Mr. Roblin or any other member of the Government.

Yours faithfully,

W. H. MONTAGUE.

HON. ROBERT ROGERS.

Minister of Public Works,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

### **HOW OUR PUBLIC DOMAIN HAS BEEN CONFISCATED AND DISSIPATED BY THE DOMINION AUTHORITIES**

The following official statement shows the dispositions made of the public lands of the Province by the Dominion since Confederation to the first of January, 1909. It shows that nearly seventeen million acres of the birthright of Manitoba have been ruthlessly taken away and appropriated for the purposes of the Dominion. Manitoba is veritably the milch cow of the Dominion. It gives but does not receive. It is singled out apparently for all sorts of indignities. Its rights are trampled upon, while other Provinces are treated with some measure of justice.

	Acres
Homesteads and pre-emptions .....	6,054,960
Railway land subsidies .....	3,518,267
Hudson Bay Company lands .....	1,436,760
Lands otherwise disposed of (sales, scrip lands, special grants) . . . . .	5,519,423
Total acres .. . . .	16,529,410

### **WHAT MANITOBA CONTRIBUTES TO THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT**

Below is given official figures shewing what Manitoba has contributed to the Dominion since Confederation for Customs and Excise. It is quite evident that Manitoba is a heavy contributor to the revenues

of the Dominion, and it is likewise the case that it has received no substantial return or consideration. At every turn its demands are brushed aside. The Province is made the Cinderella of Confederation.

CUSTOMS			EXCISE.		
1870-1	.....\$	15,855 62			
1871-2	.....	47,392 62			
1872-3	.....	48,106 45			
1873-4	.....	67,554 97	1873-4	.....\$	4,287 33
1874-5	.....	171,566 56	1874-5	.....	8,176 87
1875-6	.....	253,649 98	1875-6	.....	19,716 14
1876-7	.....	193,033 58	1876-7	.....	24,018 00
1877-8	.....	224,227 77	1877-8	.....	39,053 31
1878-9	.....	274,828 83	1878-9	.....	53,741 75
1879-80	.....	298,205 48	1879-80	.....	64,665 53
1880-1	.....	437,893 43	1880-1	.....	97,678 41
1881-2	.....	1,055,505 46	1881-2	.....	164,687 32
1882-3	.....	1,765,490 48	1882-3	.....	183,872 71
1883-4	.....	665,377 88	1883-4	.....	156,461 38
1884-5	.....	571,301 08	1884-5	.....	147,826 67
1885-6	.....	468,496 35	1885-6	.....	171,852 89
1886-7	.....	509,504 92	1886-7	.....	197,165 67
1887-8	.....	457,871 89	1887-8	.....	187,177 03
1888-9	.....	550,891 62	1888-9	.....	227,024 88
1889-90	.....	649,637 03	1889-90	.....	250,284 48
1890-1	.....	621,074 44	1890-1	.....	268,042 84
1891-2	.....	776,855 78	1891-2	.....	377,443 20
1892-3	.....	694,031 43	1892-3	.....	412,741 24
1893-4	.....	603,151 54	1893-4	.....	414,501 56
1894-5	.....	484,884 01	1894-5	.....	379,181 28
1895-6	.....	615,852 04	1895-6	.....	424,288 44
1896-7	.....	644,889 60	1896-7	.....	411,381 88
1897-8	.....	907,646 05	1897-8	.....	447,904 30
1898-9	.....	1,140,628 71	1898-9	.....	501,051 47
1899-0	.....	1,281,822 59	1899-0	.....	566,089 15
1900-1	.....	1,017,452 97	1900-1	.....	538,304 30
1901-2	.....	1,564,333 55	1901-2	.....	638,732 90
1902-3	.....	2,032,505 80	1902-3	.....	775,783 02
1903-4	.....	2,726,089 33	1903-4	.....	913,611 02
1904-5	.....	2,868,646 35	1904-5	.....	1,000,259 55
1905-6	.....	3,850,575 17	1905-6	.....	1,148,723 00
1906-7	.....	3,826,633 06	1906-7	.....	1,027,632 70
1907-8	.....	4,499,717 52	1907-8	.....	1,215,761 96
1908-9	.....	3,649,785 74	1908-9	.....	880,999 49
\$37,905,536 73			\$14,340,404 19		

Total for both purposes over  
**FIFTY-TWO MILLION DOLLARS**

## LOYALTY OF THE ROBLIN GOVERNMENT—THE FLAG POLICY

Who with a single drop of British blood in his veins does not honor and love "the old flag?"

The policy of the Roblin Government is to perpetuate the memory of that flag, which "has braved a thousand years the battle and the breeze." To do this and to inculcate patriotism and loyalty to British institutions in the hearts and minds of the school children of the Province, it has been determined to require the flying of the Union Jack on all school houses in the Province in school districts receiving Government aid. The other purpose sought to be served is the blending together foreign settlers in our midst into one common citizenship. As to this, Mr. Roblin said in an address delivered in the City of Winnipeg on the 12th of September, 1906:—

"We welcome with outstretched hands the various peoples that come to our Province who are born under foreign flags, who speak different tongue and we give them immediately the benefit of our civil laws; endow them with civil rights: the benefits of our criminal laws; to protect their lives and property; free education of the public schools; all of which are the outcome of the civilization and benefits that follow the Union Jack, and I think the man that comes from a foreign country in order to better his circumstances and to make a home for himself and his family and who objects to perpetuating the glories of our flag, who declines to have his children infused with British patriotism, is a man that is undesirable."

The flag policy of Mr. Roblin has been approved and commended all over the Dominion of Canada and elsewhere.

### Strongly Commended by the London Times

The London, England, Times, that great mouthpiece of public opinion, said in referring to Mr. Roblin's policy:—

"The Manitoba Government is to be congratulated on a measure of practical patriotism which deserves imitation in other quarters of the Empire.

"Mr. Roblin, the Premier, as will have been seen from our Ottawa correspondent's message yesterday, has declared that on and after January 1, 1907, every school in the Province which receives a public grant from the Treasury must have the Union Jack flying over it in school hours. The Government means to provide the first flag, and after that it will be the business of the school trustees to see that there

is always a flag flying in school hours on pain of forfeiting the public grant. We are told that though there has been some adverse criticism of the step, the overwhelming sentiment of the British born population is in its favor.

"As for the foreign immigrants, Mr. Roblin put the case, so far as it concerns them, quite convincingly. They come to settle in Manitoba and there, as in other British colonies, immediately get the benefit of our laws, protection for life and property, and free education for their children. These things are part of the civilization that follow the Union Jack, and the man who refuses to let his children be educated in the patriotism of the flag is, in Mr. Roblin's opinion, 'undesirable.'

"The principle is a sound one. There is no denying its force for a colony into which immigrants are pouring, men of any and every nationality, with widely different habits, standards and prejudices. The United States has had to do with this problem on the biggest scale, and so far it has dealt with it successfully; it has been simply by the active inculcation of American patriotism. Nothing else can leaven a mass of immigrants with the new citizenship of adoption.

"We might usefully take a lesson from Manitoba here at home. Superior persons may sneer at this use of the flag, and that it is un-English. It may be true that to do nothing for the encouragement of patriotism has generally been considered the proper British attitude, but that is no reason why we should not begin to mend it. While other nations which we profess to admire have been teaching patriotism, we, in this, as in other spheres, have been content to 'muddle through.' So far the instinct of loyalty has not betrayed us; but, if we are utterly indifferent about fostering it, can we be sure that it will live in future generations, in a land where the obligations of national duty are already so few.

"The Union Jack is a most obvious symbol to make use of for the purpose, yet, here our educational authorities seem positively afraid of it. Only this summer the London county council declined to entertain a proposal that a Union Jack, presented by Sir George White, should be flown over the council schools at Chelsea.

"Even the Union Jack which is flown from the Victoria Tower at Westminster, when Parliament is in session, has only been there since quite a recent date.

"The national dread of making ourselves ridiculous may have something to do with this timidity. But most likely it is chiefly want of thought, and, if Manitoba's example can make us realize that here is a problem worth thinking about, and one which can be handled in

the most direct and simple way. Mr. Roblin and his Government will have builded better than they knew."

Mr. Roblin may well be proud of his flag policy, which cannot fail in making all the people of Manitoba, of whatever nationality loyal to and proud of British Institutions.

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### **THE ROBLIN GOVERNMENT'S VIGOROUS RAILWAY POLICY**

In the Conservative platform, adopted prior to the general election in 1899, the following appears:—

"The adoption of the principle of government ownership of railways in so far as the circumstances of the Province will admit, and the adoption of the principle that no bonuses should be granted to any railway company which does not give the Government of the Province the control of rates over lines bonused, together with the option of purchase."

And it was not long after assuming office that the present Government proceeded to carry out this pre-election promise. It was believed that the "giving away" policy of the Greenway Government, without receiving any corresponding equivalent was unnecessary and unwise. The present Government realized that a competing railway system and an absolute control of rates was what was needed, and accordingly in the year 1901 entered into a contract with the Canadian Northern Railway Company, which secured this result, which has saved to the people of the Province millions of dollars in freight rates. And this has been accomplished without costing the Province one dollar, and there is not the remotest possibility that the Province will ever be called upon to pay one cent on the guaranteed bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway.

### **Formerly the Railways Were Fed and the Province Secured no Benefit**

The Greenway Government gave away to the railways over a million dollars and procured absolutely no benefit, no reduction of rates, and was forced to declare at the end that the policy was a failure. Mr. Greenway said in his election address of 1899: "I am strongly convinced that lower rates than now prevail can ultimately be secured. I have long maintained that grain can be transported to Lake Superior at a maximum rate of ten cents per hundred pounds. If such a rate

cannot be obtained over existing lines I am in favor of turning our attention elsewhere for relief."

What an admission after giving away a million dollars of the people's money for absolutely nothing. Relief was to be sought elsewhere, and at further cost to the Province.

#### **Details of the Greenway Government's Million Dollar Gift to the Railways**

Net cost of R. R. V. R. construction....		\$ 105,875 12
R. R. V. R. Main Line .....	66 miles	155,500 00
Portage extension .. . . . .	52 miles	91,000 00
Morris-Brandon.. . . . .	120 miles	210,000 00
Morris-Brandon extra.. . . . .	25 miles	43,750 00
Souris extension .. . . . .	148 miles	150,000 00
Pipestone and Glenboro .. . . .	53 miles	87,377 50
Belmont and Hartney.. . . . .	46 miles	100,500 00
Foxton extension .. . . . .	19.61 miles	34,317 50
Reston extension.. . . . .	14.55 miles	25,462 50
<hr/>		
544.16 miles		

#### **Railway Aid Subsidies—**

Municipality of Westbourne . . . . .	62,250 00
Municipality of Birtle . . . . .	32,166 65
Municipality of Shoal Lake	14,644 95
Municipality of St. Andrews . . . .	19,250 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,092,094 22

#### **What the Greenway Government's Railway Policy is Now Costing the Province Annually**

The amount above shown as having been "given" to the railways by the Greenway Government came out of the proceeds of the loans negotiated by this administration, upon which the Province has been paying for some years, is now paying, and will continue to pay up to the maturity of the debentures, an average rate of interest of 4.10 per cent. Therefore, the Province is paying \$44,775.85 a year for the Greenway Government's railway policy—a policy which gave everything and got absolutely nothing in return.

### Control of Rates—A Contrast

#### Former N. P. Agreement (Grit.)

The rates made by the Company shall not be higher to and from Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg and intermediate points, from and to Duluth and other eastern points, than the rates made by the Canadian Pacific Company between Emerson, Morris and other points near the International Boundary and Port Arthur and other eastern points. Local and through rates shall be fair and reasonable. This will make the rates of wheat from Portage la Prairie, Winnipeg and intermediate points to Duluth 21c per 100 pounds.

(No Control)

#### Roblin-C.N.R. Agreement. (Conservative.)

In consideration of the guarantee of the said bonds and the assignment of said lease and option, the Company hereby agrees that up to the 30th day of June, 1930, the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council from time to time shall fix the rates to be charged or demanded by the Company for the carriage of all freight from all points on the Company's lines in Manitoba to Port Arthur, and from Port Arthur to all points on the Company's lines in Manitoba, and from all points on the Company's lines in Manitoba to all other points on said lines in Manitoba. Provided, always, that, before any rates are so fixed, the Company shall be heard, and their interests taken into consideration. The Company agrees that it will not at any time after the rates have been so fixed charge or demand for the carriage of freight between the points aforesaid greater rates than those so fixed by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

(Absolute Control.)

### **A Magnificent Showing—Over 1,600 Miles of New Railway Lines Constructed Within the Province Under Roblin Government In Less Than Ten Years, Without Cost**

Under the policy of the Roblin Government over sixteen hundred miles of railway have been constructed without a cent of cost. The details are as follows:—

Lines—	Milage
Gladstone to Winnipegosis.. . . .	125.00
Sifton Junction to Erwood.. . . .	177.00
To southeastern boundary .. . . .	107.90
From southeastern boundary to Port Arthur.....	332.00
Gilbert Plains Junction to Grandview .....	27.22



Beaver to Gladstone . . . . .	18.30
Oak Point Branch (H. B. Railway) . . . . .	65.82
Rosburn extension . . . . .	132.95
Emerson . . . . .	73.79
Neepawa . . . . .	33.67
McCreary . . . . .	36.73
Carman . . . . .	76.67
Portage . . . . .	51.59
Carberry . . . . .	22.81
Greenway . . . . .	52.13
Carberry-Brandon . . . . .	25.48
Hartney-Virden . . . . .	37.46
Springfield . . . . .	8.60
Thunderhill . . . . .	20.03
Dundee . . . . .	4.00
De Lourdes spur . . . . .	2.64
Brandon-Regina . . . . .	69.70
Oakland . . . . .	34.23
Hallboro-Rapid City . . . . .	69.00
Ste. Rose du Lac . . . . .	15.00
Total . . . . .	<hr/> 1,621.72

To which should be added the Northern Pacific leased lines, acquired by the Government and transferred under similar conditions to the Canadian Northern Railway. **AN ABSOLUTE CONTROL OF RATES OVER 2,000 MILES OF RAILWAY.**

### **Connection With Lake Superior**

Under the agreement with the Canadian Northern Railway Company the Government secured the completion of the line from Rainy River to Port Arthur, thus giving to the people of the Province another grain outlet and competition in earnest with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for the first time and without costing the Province one single dollar. The Greenway Government did not or could not procure this connection. The Greenway Government railway policy was a disjointed one—railways were built in pieces, here and there with no outward connection, and large bonuses were paid for no appreciable return.

### **Roblin Government Secured Control of Rates for Nothing—What Greenway Government Was Prepared to Give a Million Dollars for**

The control of rates on all the Canadian Northern lines within the Province and to Port Arthur is absolute, and has long been in practical effect. Greenway's aided branch lines in the Province line to Duluth, spent thousands of dollars for legal opinions, but accomplished

nothing. Finally, he said, speaking at a public meeting at Portage la Prairie, shortly prior to his forced exit in 1899: "When I discussed the building of the Southeastern line with Mr. Mackenzie, he spoke of making arrangements for the construction of a line on Canadian territory. You remember the opposition to aiding line to Duluth for the purpose of getting a ten cent rate. I said to Mr. Mackenzie, in the Russell House, Ottawa, "If you will guarantee me a ten cent rate, I am prepared to recommend the Manitoba Government to give you an out and out bonus of a million dollars."

It is, therefore, manifest that the Roblin Government saved the Province in this one particular a million dollars. A ten-cent rate on wheat from Winnipeg to Port Arthur on all lines exists today, and the Roblin Government secured the reduction for nothing.

### **Grain Rates Reduced**

Under the agreement with the Government the rates on grain on all Canadian Northern lines in the Province and to Port Arthur were first reduced two cents a hundred pounds on the tariff in force on 11th February, 1901 (date of C. N. R. agreement with the Government), and again in 1903, a further reduction of two cents a hundred pounds was made by the Government.

### **Effect on C.P.R.—Obliged to Meet C.N.R. Reduction**

The further reduction in 1903 of two cents on the rates on grain made by the Government on C. N. R. lines, before alluded to, was so substantial and far-reaching in its effect that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company was obliged to consent to a reduction of rates to a similar basis. Accordingly an agreement was arrived at by which the Canadian Pacific Railway Company reduced their rates on grain three cents a hundred pounds from all points in the Province to Fort William, upon the Government making the last reduction of grain rates on the C. N. R. lines only applicable to the extent of one cent instead of two.

### **What It Means to the Province**

The benefit is immeasurable, it being estimated that the saving to the people by the reduction of rates referred to can be conservatively estimated at two million dollars annually. The reductions are applicable on both the C. P. R. and C. N. R. lines from Winnipeg east to Lake Superior and from every station on those lines in the Province of Manitoba.

### **Former Grit Leader Brown Not a Good Prophet**

When the Canadian Northern contract with the Government was

made in 1901, Mr. Brown was one of its strongest opponents, and journeyed to Ottawa and opposed its consummation—fortunately, however, without result, or otherwise the people of the Province would have lost the construction and acquisition of 2,000 miles of railway and still be staggering under oppressive freight rates. He foretold of the great calamities that would befall the Province if this “iniquitous bargain,” as he termed it, was ratified. Results speak for themselves, and constitute the best proof that this gentleman was woefully mistaken.

### **Further Evidence of Endorsement of Railway Policy of Present Government**

The attention of our Grit friends is directed to the policy of the Ottawa Government in guaranteeing railway bonds. This is done annually to a very large extent. For instance, bonds of the Quebec Bridge and Railway Company, for \$6,678,000 and interest at 3 per cent. for 50 years, were guaranteed. Likewise the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway Company for principal and interest at the rate of 3 per cent. on £1,923,287 sterling for 50 years. This guarantee is at the rate of \$13,000 per mile (\$3,000 more than Mr. Roblin's guarantee) for the line from the end of the Gilbert Plains branch to Edmonton, a distance of 620 miles, and the extension of the Prince Albert branch, 100 miles, a total distance of 720 miles, at \$13,000 a mile and interest. And guarantee to the Grand Trunk Pacific for a sum equal to 75 per cent. on the construction cost of the Western division and \$13,000 a mile on the prairie section.

Verily, the similarity of the two cases, i.e., the nature and extent of aid to railways by the present Government of Manitoba and the tricksters at Ottawa are as different in size as a flea and an elephant, and yet until recently Mr. Roblin was condemned for this policy.

### **Railway Plank In Grit Platform of 1906 Left Out of Last Platform**

At the Liberal convention, held in March, 1907, the following resolution was adopted: “That this convention expresses its emphatic disapproval of the unwise wholesale guaranteeing of railway bonds.”

This disapproval has disappeared entirely from the 1910 Grit platform. The last feast gathering of these patriots evidently concluded that the railway policy of the Roblin Government, which they previously had condemned so strongly and predicted blue ruin to the Province in consequence, had better disappear from their policy, and is adequate proof that the policy of the present Government in procuring the construction of needed branch lines in the Province without

cash aid, and only a figurative liability, was and is in the best interests of the Province.

### **Policy of the Roblin Government In Guaranteeing Railway Bonds Endorsed**

No better proof or justification of the railway policy of the present Government can be forthcoming, or is more convincing, than the fact that the two Governments to the West, viz., Saskatchewan and Alberta, have adopted the policy of Mr. Roblin word for word, with the exception that instead of guaranteeing the railway bonds at \$10,000 a mile (the amount until recently guaranteed by this Government), an increase was made to the extent of \$13,000 a mile. British Columbia also has adopted a similar policy, the amount of guarantee per mile being still greater.

### **A Railway Retrospect—A Most Gratifying Shewing**

Over 1,600 miles of new lines constructed since the present Government assumed office, without the cost of a single dollar to the Province.

Absolute control of freight rates.

Rates on grain reduced 3 cents a hundred pounds to Port Arthur, and other merchandise substantially reduced.

The Greenway Government gave a million dollars as aid to railways, secured no reduction in rates or equivalent, and finally drove the Northern Pacific out.

No secret deals with the C. P. R.

The annual cost to the Province for interest on the sum squandered by the Greenway Government in aiding railways is over \$45,000.

Business being done by the C. N. R., warrants statement that Province will never be called upon to pay a dollar with respect to the interest guarantee.

The Greenway Government nursed the railway promoters and then abandoned them; present Government taxed them. The Greenway Government exempted them from taxation, and received nothing in return. Present Government has received from railway tax (2% of gross earnings) since the tax was imposed, in 1890, up to the end of 1909, the sum of \$693,583.82.

## How the Railways Fared

### UNDER GREENWAY GOVERNMENT

Bonuses to the Railways representing gifts from the Public.

R. R. V. R. ....\$ 312,375 12

N. P. R. .... 354,250 00

C. P. R. .... 297,157 50

Municipality

Bonuses ... .. 128,311 60

544 miles ... ..\$1,092,094 42

### UNDER ROBLIN GOVERNMENT

Taxation of the Railways representing revenues to the Public.

**TAXATION AND  
NO AID**

**EXEMPTION,  
HEAVY AID and  
NO TAXATION**

Over 1,600 Miles constructed.  
Statements of revenue for last ten years show receipts from railway taxation to be \$693,583.82.

### Canadian Northern Was Formerly Exempted from Taxation—Roblin Government Imposed Taxation

Under the agreements of the Greenway administration with the Canadian Northern Company, clauses are contained, exempting all the property of the Company from all forms of taxation. The present Government abrogated this provision and provided that from and after the year 1906 the Company should pay the Province a tax of 2 per cent. of their gross earnings, which has been regularly paid.

### No Secret Deals Now

The railway policy of the Roblin Government is one of candour; everything is done above board, and not in the dark and secretly, as was the case under the Greenway administration. Facts were wilfully and knowingly falsified prior to the 1899 elections. It had been charged by Mr. Mellen, president of the Northern Pacific Railway Company, that his Company had been most unfairly treated by the Greenway administration in the matter of aid towards the construction of certain branch lines. It was stated by the Greenway Government that they could not give aid towards the Northern Pacific for the reason that the C. P. R. was building its lines for nothing. At Portage la Prairie, Nov. 20th, 1899, Mr. Greenway said: "Would

they be justified in adding extensions then, with \$1,750 per mile, when they could get them built for nothing?"

Mr. Watson, at the same meeting, said, "We have got today the N. P. and the C. P. R. fighting for territory, and that is where we want them, without any bonus at all."

The public were clearly informed that the lines referred to were being constructed by the C. P. R. without aid, and that, therefore, aid could not be given to the Northern Pacific Company.

What was disclosed upon the present Government assuming office? The startling fact that the Greenway Government had promised aid to the C.P.R. for both the Hamiota and Waskada extensions at the rate of \$1,750 per mile, and had entered into a contract with the same company for like aid for the Snowflake and Lac du Bonnet branches. The public had been deliberately deceived.

### **Government Guarantee of C.N.R. Bonds a Most Remote Liability**

It is true that the bonds of the Canadian Northern Railway Company, to the extent of ten thousand dollars a mile have been guaranteed and the Roblin Government is proud of its record in this respect. Does any sane person allege that instead of a guarantee it would have been wiser to have given cash aid to the C. N. R. at the Greenway rate of \$1,750 per mile? If this had been done the 1,600 miles of needed branch lines constructed under the present Government throughout the Province would have cost the enormous sum of \$2,800,000—gone, completely lost for ever, like Greenway's million dollars! And what is the extent of the liability the Province has incurred? Absolutely nothing in the point of fact. The C. N. R. now extends through five Provinces of the Dominion and will shortly be a continuous line from ocean to ocean. The Province has a first mortgage on all portions of the line within Manitoba and through Minnesota and Ontario to Port Arthur. As it would be impracticable to operate the road without the portion on which the Province holds a mortgage, it naturally follows that the security which the Province holds affects the whole system. Surely, such being the case, no reasonable person will allege that the Province will ever be called upon to institute foreclosure proceedings on the Manitoba part of the system. And what has been the earning power of the C. N. R. line? Simply wonderful. Every year it is greater than the preceding one, amply demonstrating that the liability of the Province is becoming less all the while. Even now it is a mere speck on the financial horizon.

It is apparent, therefore, that the bugaboo of contingent liability which opponents set up against the present Government is of a will-o'-

the-wisp character, and not entitled to serious consideration. Even they have now abandoned this position.

The Roblin Government has done away with railway monopoly in Manitoba absolutely and for all time; over 1,600 miles of new lines have been constructed; absolute control of rates is assured, and all has been accomplished without costing the Province a single cent. The record is one that any Government should be proud of.

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### A Pure Election Act

The Roblin Government may well be proud of its record in giving to the people of Manitoba a pure Election Act. If there is one thing more valuable than another, it is a man's franchise. It is an inherent right that should be enjoyed and in no sense bridled or interfered with.

In the Conservative platform of 1889, it was laid down "that the present iniquitous franchise law be repealed, and that an equitable act, based on the principles of manhood suffrage, and one man one vote, be enacted," and after succeeding to power no time was lost in fulfilling this promise.

The prior method of compiling the voters' lists was a public scandal—the dice were loaded, making it impossible for Conservatives to receive fair play and justice. It was the most unfair legislation ever placed upon a statute book, providing ample means for violent partisanship and political debauchery at every turn, and calculated to do that portion of the public which did not see eye to eye with the Government in office the most manifest injustice. The most rabid supporters of the Government were selected as registration clerks and revising officers. These partisan clerks sat down in offices and put on and left off the lists whom they pleased, and it was most difficult and expensive to have names put on and struck off the lists as prepared, the most complicated machinery being provided as to notice, etc. The most glaring frauds were attempted, and it was only after the most vigilant efforts and large expenditure that the opponents of the Greenway Government were able in 1899 to procure something like a fair list. In 1899, 1,925 names were added to and 5,446 names struck off the lists at the Courts of Revision.

The method of preparing the lists under the law enacted by the Roblin administration is absolutely fair and simple in every respect. The preparation of the lists is entirely removed from Government control or influence. Every man is required to make personal application before being registered an elector. Instead of partisan lawyers being appointed to revise the lists, as prevailed under the Greenway

regime, the County Court Judges of the Province now perform this service. The law cannot be more fair, and on the lists prepared pursuant to its provisions it is certain that an honest expression of the people can be obtained. The Roblin Government voters' lists are as perfect as can possibly be made, and particularly noticeable by the absence of names of absentees and dead men, who always occupied considerable space in Mr. Greenway's lists.

**The Grits Would Return to System Which Even Mr. Greenway Said Was a Dismal Failure**

The Grits are much concerned with respect to the voters' lists. It is a thorn in their side. They want loaded lists as heretofore. This the Roblin Government is determined shall not be, but that an honest expression of opinion of the people shall not only be possible but certain. At the last session of the Legislature (1910) Mr. Walton, the modern Tallyrand of the Grit party, the Don Quixote of the West, also one of the famous school lands auctioneers, of the Ottawa Government, and from which source he draws a large annual stipend, introduced the following motion, which was, of course, voted down:

"That in the opinion of this House, the system of compilation of the Provincial voters' lists as at present provided for by the "Manitoba Election Act," should be so amended as to provide for the adoption of a list of resident ratepayers as shown by the several municipal voters' lists, as a basis thereof, and supplemented by personal registration of others entitled or omitted, such preparation, so far as concerns the appointment of officers, places, dates and hours of registration, and revision, to be governed by a Board of Registration, consisting of the judges of the County Courts of the Province of Manitoba on lines similar to those adopted in 'The Election Act' of 1902."

Mr. Rogers pointed out to the House the absurdity of such a suggestion. He quoted from the Greenway election records issued in 1892 as follows:—

"It has always been the desire of the Liberal party to leave the preparation of the voters' lists in the hands of the municipal clerks, and, although the compilation of the lists in 1888 by enumerators had been satisfactory, it was determined in 1889 to introduce a measure providing that the work should be done by municipal clerks. This Act was passed in 1889. The lists throughout the Province were made up from the municipal lists, which were compiled by the municipal clerks. The result was that the lists were, almost without exception, utterly bad. They contained a multitude of names which should not have appeared, and the residents who were not owners or tenants of real estate were left off in wholesale numbers. There is hardly a



constituency in the Province in which an examination of the list of electors made up under the Act of 1889 will not show that it is the most incorrect and defective list ever made up for legislative elections for the territory which it covers. Fortunately, there was only one election (Portage la Prairie), held upon the list of 1889. It was found also that the work of getting proper returns from the municipal clerks was so slow and unsatisfactory that in a great many cases the list of 1889 was not completed and revised until 1890. The Portage la Prairie list for 1889, for instance, was not completed until April, 1890, too late to be used for the municipal elections of 1889 (the municipal and legislative lists being compiled together.)”

“The experiment of having municipal clerks compile voters’ lists for legislative purposes was thus given a fair trial, and turned out a dismal failure.”

Even the Greenway Government with all its well-known proclivities to secure all possible advantage in the voters’ lists, would not stand for such a system. Just imagine the results of the suggestion of Mr. Walton (and supported as it was by the whole Grit aggregation in the Legislature last session) if it was adopted. In such event every municipal clerk in the Province would be made an active partisan, and the infection would spread throughout the whole municipal machinery. No, the lists are fairly compiled now and we want to keep them so—absolutely no advantage taken of opponents. They are clean in every respect.

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## **FORMER GRIT LEADER BROWN A QUITTER**

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### **Insults the People of Portage la Prairie After Last Election**

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### **Advertised All His Belongings in Portage for Sale to the Highest Bidder**

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A fair sample of the make-up of Mr. E. Brown, the local Grit leader at the last Provincial campaign, may be gathered by producing a copy of a full page advertisement inserted by him in the Free Press newspaper on March 15th, 1907, immediately after the elections for the Legislature. It reads:

**“\$1,000,000 Wanted In Cold Cash”**

“The above amount must be realized immediately out of the following properties and farm lands to carry out future operations which

we are planning, and at prices that will insure quick sales. We offer the finest city properties in Portage la Prairie, both business and residential, also all our farm lands in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as listed below, and as we have rented our stable in the Stock Exchange we offer for sale all our high class horses and stable sundries. See list below." (Then follows list of properties.)

**"John and E. Brown, Portage la Prairie"**

Although this action was taken by Mr. Brown after he was turned down by the people of Portage la Prairie and the people of the Province, it is not anticipated that Tobias Crawford Norris will do the same thing—that is, he will not give up his job as school lands auctioneer. Knowing the two men, it is positively certain that Tobias Crawford Norris will take no such action, but will be found doing duty at the same old stand.

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**THE SCHOOL LANDS AND SCHOOL LANDS FUND CONTROL  
UNJUSTLY RETAINED BY OTTAWA GOVERNMENT**

In 1872, two sections in every township of the Province were set aside by the Parliament of Canada for the purposes of education. Administration was retained by the Dominion. As the Province developed, however, it was maintained that the Province was best able to administer this trust, and successive legislatures of the Province for many years have affirmed the wisdom that these lands and the funds derived from sales thereof should be handed over to and vested in the Province. The opinion is that this endowment can be administered more wisely, with greater economy, and with better and more satisfactory results, by the Province than by a far more removed department of the Dominion executive, unfamiliar with local conditions with a limited knowledge of the rapid transitions constantly taking place in Manitoba.

It has frequently been pointed out that the spirit and intention of the Parliament of Canada, when creating this endowment, was that such should be administered and dealt with to the greatest advantage, and from time to time, and at all times, in such a manner as would be productive of best results in developing a staple educational system in Manitoba.

It is maintained that, whatever reasons or causes may have prevailed in the early history of the Province for the administration of the endowment by the Federal authorities, such do not exist at present and that the Parliament of Canada should, without further delay, give ef-

feet to the transference to the Province of the school lands, and the moneys to the credit of the fund; on the distinct understanding, however, that all the terms of the original endowment shall be kept sacred, inviolate and unimpaired by the Province.

The Ottawa Government has been informed that there need be no apprehension or misgivings that either the people of Manitoba or the Legislature will fail to realize and appreciate how necessary it is that this important trust should be executed faithfully and wisely, and that the Province, having enjoyed provincial status for a period approaching half a century, is fully alive to all the duties and obligations of responsible government.

No result, however, has been attained; complete silence and indifference have been the reply of the Ottawa Government.

When Greenway was endeavoring to get \$300,000 in 1898 advanced out of the school lands fund to cover up his deficits, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said as follows:—

“The education of this country has been placed in the hands of the Province. The question of education is subject to Provincial jurisdiction. In the case of lands to be applied for the purpose of education, would it not then be far more logical, far more in accord with what ought to be the proper division of legislative powers between the Federal Parliament and the Provincial Legislature, that the latter should have control of these moneys?”

It is different now, however. The Roblin Government is in office, and it would never do to make any concessions to that quarter

It is a crying shame that Manitoba is so treated!

Even the Toronto Globe, the leading Liberal organ in the Dominion, endorses Manitoba's request to be given control of the school lands, as follows:—

“The request is one which will undoubtedly receive respectful and sympathetic attention. After enjoying provincial status for a generation it may be generally deemed that Manitoba can safely be entrusted with the administration of this highly important educational endowment. They know best their own requirements. They also know that if there were any failure to make the most of the heritage secured to them when the Province was created they and the generation succeeding them would be the chief sufferers.”

Nothing, however, seems to have any effect on the present Ottawa authorities. What Manitoba gets it must fight for.

**TOBIAS CRAWFORD NORRIS, THE GRIT LEADER, AND HIS  
CARPING LIEUTENANT, GEORGE H. WALTON, OBTAIN  
A LIVELIHOOD OUT OF THE SCHOOL LANDS**

**Little Wonder Is It That the Dominion Government Will Not Hand  
Over Their Administration to the Province**

**Gross Frauds Perpetrated In Sales. So Reported by Judge Prendergast**

Mr. Tobias Crawford Norris and Mr. George H. Walton, both members of the Legislature, are and have been for some years past the paid auctioneers of the Dominion Government in the sale of School Lands in Manitoba and the West. No other occupations do they possess. Annually they have drawn, and continue to draw, large sums for their services. They are Dominion Government officials in every sense of the term, and, therefore, are subject to the domination and dictation of their employers in all things and for all purposes, no matter how questionable and to what end.

In the month of June, 1900, a sale of school lands in Manitoba was decided upon without the consent of or consultation with the Government of Manitoba. The manner in which these sales were conducted was most disgraceful, as the facts herein after set forth will fully demonstrate. Of such a nature were the frauds committed that the Dominion Government were forced, in order to appease public opinion, to appoint a Commission to investigate the matter. Judge Prendergast was appointed Commissioner and in due course took evidence and submitted a report. Of such an astounding nature, however, was this evidence that the Dominion Government never saw fit to print it. It was disclosed that prices were bid at auction sales and afterwards the purchasers would back out; there were then resales when the same lands were again sold, in some cases to relatives or political friends at many dollars per acre lower than the original price.

What made the matter still blacker is the fact that the majority of the Dominion land sales were conducted by T. C. Norris, the Opposition leader, and George Walton, of Emerson.

At Emerson 82 parcels were offered in two hours, an average of 1½ minutes per parcel. Geo. Walton, auctioneer.

At Oak Lake, 91 parcels were offered in two hours, an average of one and a half minutes per parcel. T. C. Norris, auctioneer.

At Boissevain, 96 parcels were offered in two hours.

At Melita, 199 parcels were put up in two hours.

At Baldur, 133 parcels were offered in less than three hours.

At Crystal City, 128 parcels were put up in two hours.

At Winnipeg, 266 parcels were offered in three hours.

### Oak Lake Sale

(T. C. Norris, Auctioneer.)

At Oak Lake, a quarter section was sold at the first sale for \$8 to James Forest, and was re-sold at the second sale to Walter Forest at \$5 the upset price. Concerning this Judge Prendergast said: "John Forest and Walter Forest are brothers, it was with the former's money that the latter bought at the re-sale, and Walter has since conveyed the land to John without consideration or profit. All the circumstances of the sale point to a tacit, well defined understanding whereby the purchaser in the first instance was to default and the other to buy at the re-sale at the upset price, and then convey back to the former."

### Miami Sale

A quarter section was sold at the original sale to James Kirby for \$14.50 and was re-sold for \$8.00, the upset price, to Kirby's brother-in-law, James H. Hudson, the Commissioner states that there was a combination between the two and that money was paid to intending bidders at the re-sale to prevent them from bidding.

### Souris Sale

(T. C. Norris, Auctioneer.)

The Commissioner states that there many cases of illegal combination, the party who assisted the auctioneer's clerk bought two parcels at \$10.25 and \$10 respectively and afterwards defaulted, the parcels being sold at the re-sale for \$9 and \$8 respectively. Throughout the sale the same conditions existed of bidding up to higher prices and driving away legitimate purchasers, because at the first sale, as stated by the judge, there were 150 in attendance, and at the resale there were only forty-five. Later on, he states, there were only a few present during the time and the latter part of the re-sale. The S. W. quarter and N. W. quarter 27-7-19 west, upset price \$9 and \$8 respectively, first sold to Robert McGaw for \$10.25 and \$10, and resold after default to E. A. Black, of Hayfield, for \$9 and \$8.

Then again, in regard to the N. E. quarter of section 29-8-29 west, upset price \$8.50. This was first sold to Richard Leeson for \$15, and resold after default to R. E. Hopkins for \$8.50. The commissioner says: "After referring to the arrangement between Leeson and Andrew W. Gerow, who planned the deal, and stating that he had received from Leeson the money with which he bought at the resale, Hopkins says distinctly, 'I considered I was buying the land for him (Leeson). It was his money, and if he asked me for a deed of it he would have it.' This, of course, should dispose of the matter. The next highest bidder at the first sale was John E. Smith, of Brandon,

who bid \$14.75. He was outbid in the manner I name, and this was resold at \$8 per acre.'

S. W. quarter and N. W. half of section 296-22 west, upset price \$10 in each case; first sold respectively to Albert Colter for \$14.25 and to John F. Underhill for \$14.75, and resold after default to H. A. Cowan, of Hartney, for the upset price in each case.

"Re S. W. quarter. The sale is suspicious at least in the following particulars: First, Cowan is Cotter's brother-in-law; second, Cowan did not bid at all at the first sale; third, Cotter is now cultivating the land under an alleged agreement with Cowan; fourth, the difference between the selling price at the first sale and at resale is \$4.25; fifth, the two other quarters of this section sold at \$14.15, although the upset price was \$10 for these also; sixth, whilst protesting that he had fully made up his mind to have nothing more to do with the land after the first sale, Cotter nevertheless adds: "I knew my brother-in-law would look after the purchase of this land if it was resold."

"Re sale 12, S. E. quarter of section 11-6-23 west: upset price, \$12; first sold to Edmund W. White, of Hartney, for \$20, and resold after default to the same party for \$18. It is plain from the documentary and oral evidence (and there is also his own admission), that White was the purchaser, both at the first sale and at the resale, and that he bought in the latter for \$2 less than the land was knocked down to him for at the former. W. C. Robinson's claim that he was the next highest bidder at the first sale with a bid of \$19.75 seems well proven."

### Crystal City Sale

A quarter section was sold to R. H. Miller for \$11.50. The purchase was not completed, and it was afterwards sold at the resale to G. F. Tweed for \$8.25 who subsequently transferred it to Miller, under circumstances, the Commissioner states, which raises a strong presumption of collusion between the parties. At this same sale a quarter section was sold at the original sale to Thomas Sands for \$11.50 and was subsequently bought at the resale for Sands by J. M. Greenway for \$7 per acre. Another suspicious case at Crystal City was that of a quarter section which was bought by a man who defaulted, and was bought at the resale by his sister-in-law for \$2 an acre less than the original price.

Case after case of collusion was proven to the satisfaction of the Commissioner, and no one but a wayfaring man or a fool could have acted in the capacity of an auctioneer at these School Land sales, as Mr. Norris and Mr. Walton did, and been ignorant of the crookedness that took place thereat. There is overwhelming evidence that the trust property of the Province, such as these school lands are, or are supposed to be, was exploited to the extent of thousands of dollars,

which found their way into the pockets of heelers and Grit hirelings. They followed in the wake of those school lands sales much in the same manner as the thimble and pea man does a circus.

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## **INTEREST ON SCHOOL LANDS REDUCED**

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### **Province Further Fleeced**

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Not satisfied with procuring valuable lands at prices far below their value, the always-accommodating Ottawa Government (to friends) reduced the interest on the deferred payments, that is, on the balance of the purchase price, in each case from six to five per cent., and this provision was made retroactive, so as to apply to the scandalous sales of 1900 before referred to.

## THE GOVERNMENT IS PERSISTENT

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### Another Memorial Sent Recently to Ottawa Authorities Demanding Handing Over of School Lands Fund to Province for Administration

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*To His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Elbert Henry George, Earl Grey, Viscount Howick, Baron Grey of Howick, in the County of Northumberland, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, and a Baronet, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order, Etc., Etc., Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Dominion of Canada:*

*May It Please Your Excellency:*

We, His Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of the Manitoba, in Session assembled, beg leave to approach Your Excellency for the purpose of representing:—

That it is the opinion of this House that the administration and control of the school lands set apart by the Parliament of Canada in the year 1872 as an endowment for the purposes of education in this Province and the moneys realized from the sale of such school lands and now in the hands of the Federal authorities, should be handed over to and vested in this Province;

And it is also the opinion of this House that the school lands endowment hereinbefore mentioned can be administered more wisely, with greater economy and with better and more satisfactory results by this Province than by a department of the Dominion Executive far removed and unfamiliar with local conditions, and that the moneys held in trust by the Dominion of Canada can be vested as securely and with more profits than at present;

And that this House is further of the opinion that the intention of the Parliament of Canada, in setting apart certain lands in Manitoba for school purposes, was that such land should be administered and dealt with to the greatest advantage and from time to time in such manner as would be productive of the best results in developing and promoting an educational system in this Province;

And this House humbly submits that there exists no reasonable cause for the Parliament of Canada granting certain lands to the Uni-



versity of Manitoba, as the fact is, unfettered by conditions as to sale and management, and withholding from the Province similar rights as to the school lands and the funds produced therefrom;

and that this House is further of the opinion that whatever reasons or causes may have heretofore existed for the retention by the Federal authorities of such school lands and moneys, do not now exist; and that, as a consequence, the revenues for educational purposes may be materially augmented by the administration of the said school lands and moneys by the Government of this Province;

We, therefore, pray that Your Excellency may be pleased to take such steps as will cause the administration of the school lands now in the hands and under the control of the Government of the Dominion of Canada, subject to the trusts attached thereto, to be vested in the Government of the Province of Manitoba, this House undertaking to pass such legislation as will keep the original endowment affecting such lands inviolate and unimpaired so that the earnings and income only from the said lands shall be devoted solely to the purposes of education in the Province of Manitoba.

Of course, no reply has been received to this Appeal!!! Every request of Manitoba is ignored.

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### **RESPECTING COMPULSORY EDUCATION IN MANITOBA**

The first Public School Act of Manitoba was 42 Victoria, Chap. 2, passed in 1879. This Act contained compulsory clauses and came into effect by the Boards of School Trustees passing by-laws dealing with the subject. This Act may be found in the Consolidated Statutes of Manitoba, 1880, and is Chapter 62 thereof, Secs. 106 and 107.

This Act was repealed in 1881 and a new Public Schools Act was passed that year, being Chapter 5 of 44 Victoria. This new Act contained the same provisions as to compulsory education as were contained in the Consolidated Statutes of 1880, Chap. 62, above referred to. These provisions remained in force in Manitoba down to 1890. In 1890 the old Public Schools Act was repealed and a new Act passed. This is the Act of the Greenway Government, which abolished Separate schools and for the first time the Public Schools Act contained no provisions for Compulsory Education. This Act is Chap. 38, of 53 Victoria, 1890.

Later, in 1902, this Act was re-enacted in the Consolidated Statutes of that year, and is still the present School Act.

In 1896, an important amendment was made to the 1890 Act, by the Greenway Government, and embodied what is commonly known as

the Laurier-Greenway settlement of the school question, which had been in controversy between this Province and the Dominion Government since 1890. This settlement was embodied in legislation by 60 Victoria, Chap. 26, 1896, and forms part of our present School Act. This amendment is in terms of an agreement of settlement arranged between Laurier on behalf of the Dominion Government, and Greenway and Sifton on behalf of the Manitoba Government.

Section 10 of that Act particularly relates the bi-lingual teaching in the schools. That section was new and has introduced the most mischievous and troublesome provision we have to deal with at the present time. The French, perhaps, had some rights to it, but the other nationalities had none whatever, and it is now causing many of our most difficult problems.

When the Greenway Government came into power in 1889 they found a Public School Act in force in Manitoba enacted by the Government of John Norquay, and containing Compulsory Education provisions, and in 1890 they wiped that Act out and with it all Compulsory Education provisions. Upon examining the original draft of the Act of 1890 as it was submitted to the Legislature there are found Compulsory Education clauses copied chiefly from the Ontario Schools Act. All these provisions were, however, struck out of the Act, apparently in the Committee stage of the Bill, and the erasure of them is all initialed "C. S." (Mr. Clifford Sifton) who was chairman of the committee. We are informed that these provisions were drawn by the late Dalton McCarthy and Mr. Joseph Martin, the then attorney-general of the Province, and Mr. Clifford Sifton, a lawyer in the House.

### **The Effect of Now Enacting Similar Provisions**

The present Government have taken the opinion of counsel upon the subject.

Mr. McMaster advised that if such provisions were enacted it would open the way again to the Roman Catholics to apply to the Dominion Government for remedial legislation and this would just be another "School Question" opened up exactly the same as the last one.

### **The Attitude of the Government Towards Compulsory Education**

Every member of the present Government is in favor of it, and just as strongly supports and endorses the principles as any member of the Opposition. The ground taken, however, is that the time is not opportune for the enactment of such provisions.

The Government do not desire to launch upon the country another

school question agitation, with all its accompanying unsettling of conditions that such an agitation must bring.

Nor do they desire at present to put the Roman Catholics in the position to ask for remedial legislation again and probably have some form of Separate schools forced upon us by the Dominion Government. Just as Greenway and Sifton had to give up something when the 1896 compromise was made with Laurier and to admit provisions into their School Act, so would any later Government be forced to give up something more when a settlement came to be reached of a similar agitation.

Again until the question of our boundaries is settled with the Dominion, we do not want to involve the situation or prejudice it by opening up another school question.

The Government is prepared to enact compulsory education provisions just as soon as it can safely be done without prejudicing our position on these matters.

### **Why Do the Liberals Now Demand Such an Act?**

It was the Liberal Greenway Government that repealed these provisions. Why did they not enact them during the years from 1894 to 1900, when they were in power?

Do the present Liberals condemn now what they supported in 1890?

Do they want to create a situation in Manitoba which will put a lever into Sir Wilfrid Laurier's hands to make Manitoba come to terms?

We charge them that they are not sincere in this matter and have not the best interests of the Province at heart.

We also charge their leaders with a conspiracy to put Manitoba into a false position and prejudice us when we come to the negotiations regarding our boundaries.

### **The Position in the Other Provinces**

Ontario, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick all have compulsory provisions.

All these Provinces have Separate schools by-law, except New Brunswick, and that Province has them by tacit consent of all parties. New Brunswick, however, had no compulsory provisions until 1906, and they are altogether different from any of the other Provinces except Nova Scotia. In New Brunswick these provisions only come into

operation by vote of each municipal and town council, so that it is left to the people themselves to say what shall be done in that regard. The Act only came into force in 1906 and there has hardly been time to see the effect of its operation.

### **The Results of Compulsory Education Provisions'**

The Act is very much of a dead letter and it is not effectively enforced. The circumstances of so many of the people are such that it becomes impossible to enforce it.

The results come chiefly from the moral effect of having such provisions on the statute book, and they are very desirable on that account.

Although it has been in force in Ontario and most of the United States for many years, yet the schools have not attained the standard that people desire and better ways are looked for and being found to improve the schools and the attendance thereat.

### **THE LAURIER-GREENWAY SCHOOL SETTLEMENT OF 1896**

1. Legislation shall be introduced and passed at the next regular session of the Legislature of Manitoba, embodying the provisions hereinafter set forth in amendment to "The Public Schools Act" for the purpose of settling the educational questions that have been in dispute in that Province.

2. Religious teaching to be conducted as hereinafter provided:

(1) If authorized by a resolution passed by a majority of the school trustees, or

(2) If a petition be presented to the Board of School Trustees asking for religious teaching and signed by the parentst or guardians of at least ten children attending the school in the case of a rural district, or by the parents or guardians of at least twenty-five children attending the school in a city, town or village.

(3) Such religious teaching to take place between the hours of 3.30 and 4 o'clock in the afternoon, and to be conducted by any Christian clergyman whose charge includes any portion of the school district, or by a person duly authorized by such clergyman or by a teacher when so authorized.

(4) When so specified in such resolution of the trustees or where so required by the petition of the parents or guardians, religious teaching during the prescribed period may take place, only on certain specified days of the week, instead of on every teaching day.

(5- In any school in towns and cities where the average attendance of Roman Catholic children is forty or upwards, and in villages and rural districts where the average attendance of such children is twenty-five or upwards, the trustees shall, if required by the petition of the parents or guardians of such number of Roman Catholic children

respectively, employ at least one duly certified Roman Catholic teacher in such school.

In any school in towns and cities where the average attendance of non-Roman Catholic children is forty or upwards, and in villages and rural districts where the average attendance of such children is twenty-five or upwards, the trustees shall, if required, by the petition of the parents or guardians of such children, employ at least one duly certified non-Roman Catholic teacher.

(6) Where religious teaching is required to be carried on in any school in pursuance of the foregoing provisions, and there are Roman Catholic children and non-Roman Catholic children attending such school, and the school room accommodation does not permit of the pupils being placed in separate rooms for the purpose of religious teaching, provisions shall be made by regulations of the Department of Education (which regulations the Board of School Trustees shall observe) whereby the time allotted for religious teaching shall be divided in such a way that the religious teaching of the Roman Catholic children shall be carried on during the prescribed period or one-half of the teaching days in each month, and the religious teaching of the non-Roman Catholic children may be carried on during the prescribed period on one-half of the teaching days in each month.

(7) The Department of Education shall have power to make regulations not inconsistent with the principles of this Act for the carrying into effect the provisions of this Act.

(8) No separation of the pupils by religious denominations shall take place during the secular school work.

(9) Where the school room accommodation at the disposal of the trustees permits, instead of allotting different days of the week to the different denominations for the purpose of religious teaching, the pupils may be separated when the hour for religious teaching arrives, and placed in separate rooms.

(10) Where ten of the pupils in any school speak the French language (or any language other than English), as their native tongue, the teaching of such pupils shall be conducted in French (or any other such language) and English upon the bi-lingual system.

(11) No pupils to be permitted to be present at any religious teaching unless the parents or guardians of such pupils desire it. In case the parents or guardians do not desire the attendance of the pupils at such religious teaching, then the pupils shall be dismissed before the exercises, or shall remain in another room.

(Signed)

WILFRID LAURIER,

(Signed)

CLIFFORD SIFTON.

Ottawa, 16th November, 1896.

### **A Clear Exposition on the Impracticability of Introducing Compulsory Education in the Province**

A very clear letter on the subject of Compulsory Education was published in the Winnipeg Daily Tribune a short time ago, and is re-

produced as evidencing that it is impracticable at the present time to introduce compulsory legislation in the public schools of this Province. The letter is as follows:—

“ There seems to be a strong public sentiment in favor of a compulsory school law for Manitoba, but the reverend divines who present such good and logical reasons in favor of compulsory education in this Province evidently overlook the fact that the Laurier-Greenway school settlement of 1896 contains some very queer provisions. Sectarianism in its worst form is allowed to invade the public schools of this Province. In any public school having an average of ten Roman Catholic children or ten non-Roman Catholic children, the trustees shall, if justified by the parents or guardians of such children allow the parish priest or any person whom he may appoint for that purpose, or any Protestant clergyman to conduct religious instruction in any public school between 3.30 and 4 p.m. each day. If the school only contains one room, the Roman Catholics and the non-Catholics divide the time. If the school has two rooms the Roman Catholics have the exclusive use of one of the rooms. In a rural school having an average attendance of ten Roman Catholic children and forty Protestant children, the forty Protestant children lose one-half hour of the school day while the parish priest is giving the ten Roman Catholic children religious instruction. Another evil is that the children attending our public schools are growing up to know each other by their religious denominations. Why should Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists, and all other religious denominations not allow their children to meet in the public schools and forget the narrowness and bigotry which the teaching of denominations will engender in our public schools?

“ The separation provided for in the Laurier-Greenway school settlement during the half hour set apart for religious instruction will perpetuate the strife and discord which has been the curse of Canada in the past. In all the nations where a compulsory school law is in force, the school system is national, non-sectarian. In Manitoba this is not the case. The Roman Catholic Church has certain rights, their religion is recognized by law, and they have the right to have their religion taught in any public school in the Province if there are ten Roman Catholic children attending such school. The Roman Catholics also have the right to have a Roman Catholic teacher in any public school in cities or towns having an average attendance of forty Roman Catholic children and in rural schools if there is an average attendance of twenty-five Roman Catholic children. The Roman Catholic population, if forced to send their children to the public schools by a compulsory school law will demand the exercise of all the rights and privileges given to them by the Laurier-Greenway school settlement, and no school board can refuse to carry out the strict letter of the law.

“ There is said to be over 9,000 children of school age in the City of Winnipeg who do not attend any school, at least 75 per cent. of whom

are Roman Catholics. The church is establishing schools as fast as their means will enable them—which is certainly a great strain on the Roman Catholic people, as their schools are kept up by voluntary subscriptions. They get no legislature or municipal grants and the Roman Catholic people are taxed to keep up the public schools, to which, as a matter of conscience, they refuse to send their children. In a case of this kind is there a Protestant in this Province who would tamely submit to be forced to send his children to a public school if he had conscientious scruples against so doing, and if a compulsory school law is passed and the children of the Roman Catholic foreigners are forced into the public schools, every public school in the Province having the necessary number of Roman Catholic children in attendance to entitle them to the half hour's religious instruction will demand their rights and sectarianism will be rampant and our public schools will be a hot bed of sectarianism.

“Another evil in this Laurier-Greenway school settlement is the bi-lingual teaching privileges granted to foreigners. There is not a language spoken in the world today but must be taught in the public schools of Manitoba. If there are ten children who speak any foreign language the teaching of such children shall be conducted in such foreign language and English upon the bi-lingual system.

“Now, Sir, there are three or four dozen languages spoken in Winnipeg, and nearly all the foreigners who have not been sending their children to the public schools are Roman Catholics. Each nationality has its own priest. He retains his influence over his countrymen largely through retaining the language and customs of the land from which they came. The school law of this Province says that any foreign language can be taught. That is a right which no foreigner will lose sight of. The Roman Catholic Church encourages the preservation of the native language of its adherents. So it is reasonable to expect a demand from every one of those foreign nationalities to have their native language and English taught to their children upon the bi-lingual system, if they are forced to send their children to the public schools by the operation of a compulsory school law. The Roman Catholic Church has not yet demanded its rights and its privileges under the terms of the Laurier-Greenway settlement of 1897. But if the compulsory school law is put in operation and Roman Catholic children are forced by law to attend the public schools all their rights and privileges in regard to religious teaching will follow. The engagement of Roman Catholic teachers, the complete separation of Roman Catholic children for religious instruction and the bi-lingual teaching of foreign languages will be demanded by the church. On account of not having a compulsory school law in this Province, the Roman Catholic people have not asked for a strict enforcement of the law, but have avoided friction by keeping their children at home or sending them to church schools. But if force is to be used to compel them to send their children to schools which they do not believe in, and to which they

have conscientious objections, it is only reasonable to expect a demand for every legal right the law extends to the Roman Catholic people.

"Therefore, I claim that so soon as a compulsory school law is put in operation there will be a demand made for the following rights conceded by the school settlement of 1897:—

"1. The right to teach the Roman Catholic religion to Roman Catholic children attending any public school if they number ten.

"2. The right to the use of the public school for one-half the time set apart each week for religious instruction if there is only one room and if there are two rooms the exclusive use of one for religious teaching.

"3. The right to have a Roman Catholic priest or any person whom he may appoint to teach the Roman Catholic children religion during the half hour set apart for such purpose.

"4. The right to have complete separation of their children during religious exercises.

"5. The right to have a Roman Catholic teacher employed in any public school in a city or town having an average attendance of forty Roman Catholic children, and in rural public schools if there is an average attendance of twenty-five Roman Catholic children.

"6. The right to have a Roman Catholic inspector to inspect public schools in which Roman Catholic teachers are employed.

"The school settlement of 1897 recognizes the Roman Catholic religion as one of the subjects to be taught in the public school, and sets apart one-half hour of the school day for that purpose. The school settlement of 1897 recognizes the Roman Catholic religion as one of the qualifications for certain teachers in this Province. In fact, this Laurier-Greenway school settlement is one of the most disturbing enactments that ever disgraced the statutes of any civilized country. It cannot be successfully operated, if the Roman Catholic people insist on their rights which the law gives them, and which they will demand if Roman Catholic children are forced into the public schools, by a compulsory school law. Now, sir, the bi-lingual teaching privileges of the Laurier-Greenway school settlement, if Roman Catholic children are forced into the public schools by a compulsory school law, will create endless confusion if the Winnipeg public schools are compelled to teach three or four dozen foreign languages. The diffusion of tongues at the Tower of Babel would be in evidence on a smaller scale in the Winnipeg public schools. In order to comply with the Laurier-Greenway school law the Government before passing a compulsory school law will require: First, to start training schools for training bi-lingual teach-



ers in the three or four dozen languages represented in the school population of Winnipeg; second, arrange for the printing and compiling of the text book authorized by law on the bi-lingual system; third, amend the Laurier-Greenway school law that the bi-lingual privileges only extend to the different nationalities in the Province.

“If Dr. Duval and other advocates of compulsory education would advocate a repeal of this unworkable school law and agitate for a national non-sectarian system, of public schools, in which only the English language would be taught, and to which every child of school age would be compelled by law to attend, and then teach the children patriotism and stop once and forever this foreign nonsense, it would, to my mind, be productive of more good. Have one school, one language, and one flag from Halifax to Vancouver, and the next generation would be loyal enough to present the old motherland with a Dreadnought instead of a resolution. It is high time to put a stop to foreigners coming here and setting up a miniature France, a miniature Russia or any other kind of a miniature nation. If those people come here to get more freedom than they ever enjoyed under the governments of their native land and are not willing to become loyal Canadians and loyal British subjects, they should be sent back where they came from. The public schools of Manitoba should not be nurseries for future rebels, and if the bi-lingual privileges granted to foreigners are carried out that's what it will mean. Manitoba should have a compulsory school law; there are no two opinions about the necessity for such a law; but if put into operation with the bi-lingual and sectarian features of the Laurier-Greenway school settlement, it will demoralize the public school system and cause strife and discord.”

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### GOOD ROADS

The Grits have unfurled another sail—good roads—trusting to the elements for a favorable breeze. Unfortunately, however, for them they have again been blanketed. The Roblin Government ever since their tenure of office, have assisted the several municipalities of the Province in this respect. Thousands of dollars have been paid out for the purpose of thus improving the conditions of the people. It has been the perpetual policy of the Hon. Mr. Rogers to substantially assist the municipalities in permanent improvements. He believes aid of this character to be the first duty of responsible government in order to make the conditions of the people as favorable as possible, particularly in a new country, such as Manitoba is, and he has gone still further in order to make his policy in this regard as far reaching as possible by procuring the passage of an Act at the 1910 session of the Legislature providing for the appointment of a good roads commissioner to further interest and assist the municipalities in the art of road making. Such an official has been named, and is now engaged in his duties.

The Grit machine artists are more interested in procuring smooth

political roads for the purpose of travelling upon to the destination of power than they are for the welfare of the farmer. It is a clumsy attempt to gain prestige. The farmers of the Province know well how substantially they have been assisted by the Roblin Government to better their conditions, and will not be imposed upon by meaningless cheap Grit clap-trap. It is better to have possession of the real doughnut than to have it suspended for the purpose of looking through the hole. If there is one thing more than another that the Roblin Government can point to with pride it is to their policy of assisting and caring for the farming community of the Province. Mr. Rogers has truly said that not one reasonable request for municipal aid has been refused since his administration of the Department of Public Works.

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### **NEW INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR BOYS AT PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE**

The Government appreciation of necessities have established at Portage la Prairie one of the finest institutions of its kind on this continent. It is under the management of Rev. Wellington Bridgman. Here ample accommodation is made for receiving boys who have proved too difficult to be reformed in any other way than by a few years of firm but kindly discipline in an institution. Here every provision is made for the successful training of such: they will be taught a trade, attend school, learn farm work, and will be entirely separate from contact with adult criminals. For an institution of the kind the whole environment of the place is ideal. The Government of Saskatchewan and Alberta have entered into an arrangement whereby their incorrigibles may be taken care of at this institution.

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### **CARE OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AND JUVENILE COURTS**

The Government has also given this subject attention. A section of the Department of the Attorney-General has been set apart to deal with all cases of neglected children. Mr. F. J. Billiarde, a most competent man, has charge of the work, and through his untiring efforts good work has been performed and many neglected and dependent children provided for.

As to the Juvenile Court, Mr. T. Mayne Daly, Esq., K.C., police-magistrate of Winnipeg, said as follows in his report for 1909:—

"I wish to record that I feel much encouraged with all the good that has been accomplished by the Juvenile Court and its officers during the inaugural year of the Court, and I can safely say that the first Juvenile Court in Canada has so far realized that which those interested expected of it. We have reached the boy and the girl, and the

parents and the homes in a way, and also exercised an influence, that we have never been able to do before. The mere fact of there being no publicity connected with the arrest and trial of children is in itself a tremendous gain.

**Thus it is that the Roblin Government performs good work in all the branches of Government.**

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### **WELL BORING FACILITIES**

It has been the policy of the Roblin Government to assist farmers in constructing wells, it having been found that the farming community had no facilities for this purpose. At the present time the Department of Public Works provides a number of well boring machines, and these machines are supplied with all the necessary paraphernalia for the purpose of sinking wells. The conditions are as follows—machines are supplied for the purpose of procuring water in districts where good water has not been obtained, or where it has been impossible to get good water. The terms upon which the Government supply these machines are that the farmer shall only be required to pay for the casing and the board of the men employed on the machines during the time of the progress of the work.

The number of wells that have been drilled during the past two years, 1908-09 is 137. There has been a great demand for work of this character throughout the Province, and at the present time applications have been sent to the Department of Public Works that will keep the machines busy for at least two years. The Government, therefore, in this respect, has very liberally assisted the farming community, and that it is being appreciated is evident from the fact of so many applications being sent in.

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# Unfair Treatment of the Province of Manitoba by the Dominion Government

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## A Short History Showing How Manitoba Has Been Treated Since Its Entry Into Confederation

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Under the British North America Act, passed in the year 1867, it was declared in the recital contained in the said Act that the Union of these Provinces was for the purpose of conducing to the welfare of the United Provinces, and to promote the interests of the British Empire.

This was the purpose of Confederation, and it was on this distinct stipulation and understanding that the Provinces of Canada became united. When the Manitoba Act was passed in the year 1870, it became part of the Confederation of Canada, and, therefore, the same provision prevailed that the union of Manitoba into the Confederation of Canada was for the purpose of conducing to the welfare of the Province of Manitoba. Unfortunately, however, as exemplified by the treatment that Manitoba has received since it became a sister of Confederation, it does not bear out the statement contained in the original Confederation Act, that such a union would conduce to the welfare of the Province.

### Retrospective View of Events

In order to fully appreciate the position of Manitoba at the present time as a Province of the Confederation, it is necessary to take a retrospective view of events, and to look back to the time when Confederation took place, and the Province was given political existence. The territory now comprised within the limits of Manitoba at one time formed part of what was known as Rupert's Land, the area granted by an Imperial Charter in 1670 to a number of persons describing themselves as the Hudson's Bay Company. At that time, and for many years after, the whole of the North Western portion of Canada was in a wild, crude and undeveloped condition, and the Company above named carried on, as its principal occupation, fur trading with the Indians.

The first sign of civilization in Rupert's land was in 1811, when the Hudson's Bay Company alienated and granted to Lord Selkirk the district described as Assiniboia. The following year witnessed the establishment of the Red River colony by the arrival of a number of

persons from the North of Scotland and Ireland. A further settlement consisting of Swiss and French Canadians followed in due course. From the period at which Lord Selkirk became possessed of the district of Assiniboia to the time of his death in the year 1821, he exercised full control therein as to the granting of freehold estates to the early settlers. This right was perpetuated by his executors until the territory was re-purchased in 1836 by the Hudson's Bay Company.

The general jurisdiction of the Hudson's Bay Company over the vast territory under its control did not in any way affect the colony of Red River, whose affairs were controlled by another body or corporation, first constituted in 1835, known as the Council of Assiniboia. This council was clothed with Legislative jurisdiction, and to the time it ceased to exist, at the time of the transfer of Manitoba to the Dominion, it exercised and dealt with matters judicial and otherwise. The records show that provisions were made relating to all matters of internal government of the district. In fact, in all respects the district was self-governing. The manners of the people were eminently gentle, and a ready obedience was at all times yielded to the few simple laws required for their government. A few hundred pounds covered the whole cost of civil government and the administration of justice in the colony.

The negotiations by the Government of Canada for the acquisition of Rupert's Land and the Northwest Territories, and the extinguishment of the rights of the Hudson's Bay Company therein, culminated by the surrender by that Company to Her Majesty in 1869 for a consideration of £300,000 and one-twentieth of the lands in the Province. This surrender was duly accepted by Canada on the 23rd June, 1870, and it was declared by Order-in-Council that from and after the 15th day of July, 1870, Rupert's Land, which included the district of Assiniboia, should upon certain conditions be admitted into and form part of the Dominion of Canada.

### **Population of Manitoba in 1870**

At this time Manitoba had a mixed population of about 12,000 souls, 2,000 being white and 10,000 Metis or French half-breeds, and embraced an area of 3,500 square miles. The terms and conditions embraced in the Act admitting Manitoba into the Confederation of Canada were, first, responsible Government; second, a money consideration for the purpose of supporting the Government and the Legislature.

It is true that the negotiations respecting the terms of which Manitoba should become incorporated with Confederation, were the subject of negotiations between representatives from what is now the Province of Manitoba and the Dominion authorities, but these delegates to Ottawa in the year 1870 were not in a position, owing to their ignorance

of popular Government, and the consequent financial liabilities involved, to form any reliable estimate of the expense involved in constituting an enlarged system of Government. Had they been possessed of a due appreciation, these delegates would undoubtedly have been convinced of the absolute insufficiency of the terms set forth. These delegates, and the people they represented were utterly unfamiliar with the consequent burden of establishing a form of Government similar to the other Provinces, and unappreciative of the expenditure necessary to provide for the wants and the necessities of an influx of new settlers.

Unlike the other Provinces at the time of entry into Confederation Manitoba had no Legislative Assembly to guard its interests or to act on its behalf. Therefore, the people did not for a moment realize that such grave responsibilities were to be cast upon them. They were suddenly called upon to form part of the Confederation of Canada, and to carry into effect a similar system of local self-government which had existed for half a century in the older Provinces. Manitoba had no public debt, no Parliamentary or other buildings, no Court Houses or gaols. The people contributed hardly anything, except in the form of the nominal duty on a few articles of import, towards the very small sum required to meet the expenses of Government, and exacted just as little in return. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is not beside the mark to say that to a very large extent the people of the Red River Colony were, figuratively speaking, forced into Confederation, and compelled to accept unfair conditions, dissimilar and inferior in many respects to those under which the other Provinces entered Confederation, as will be hereafter shown. The people, however, submitted to the conditions imposed upon them, not knowing the extent of the responsibilities they were assuming, and no doubt they felt that in any event they would be treated with full and impartial British justice by the Federal authorities. They believed that by becoming part of Confederation the utmost justice and fair dealing would be conceded to them. Assurances of this character were given to them by the Hon. Joseph Howe, then a member of the Dominion Cabinet, who at the time was visiting the Province. He said: "I have conversed freely with all classes of the community, from Governor McTavish downwards, and to all held the same language, that the same constitution as the other Provinces possessed would ultimately be conferred upon the country."

### **Inadequacy of the Subsidy**

A reference to the terms upon which the Province entered Confederation shows the subsidy from all sources to have been \$67,234.50. The innocent assumption or presumption of the people at the time that this revenue would be sufficient to carry on responsible Government was speedily demonstrated to be a delusion, and it was not long before it was apparent that the amount of resources at command was entirely inadequate. This was pointed out to the Federal authorities. It was shown that undertakings were necessary owing to the extraordin-

any influx of settlers to the fertile plains of Manitoba not foreseen at the time of the making of the financial arrangements with the Federal authorities in 1870, and that the expenses of Government and the administration were far beyond contemplation and reasonable expectation.

In 1873, therefore, the subsidy was increased by \$5,000, making the annual subsidy \$72,000. It was still evident, however, that this amount was entirely insufficient, and the Government of the Province was obliged to borrow a sum from its capital account with the Dominion, which had the effect of reducing the annual subsidy to \$65,000 per year, inasmuch as interest on the amount borrowed from the capital account was deducted. No other appeal was made, resulting in a slight re-adjustment, which had the effect of increasing the annual subsidy to \$90,000 a year. In 1880 the subsidy rose from \$90,000 to \$105,000, and again, in 1882, there was an increase to \$227,153. In 1884, the financial position of the Province became more acute, and it was the unanimous opinion of the Legislature at that time that it was the imperative duty of the Federal authorities to consider and re-adjust the financial relations of the Province with the Dominion. An united Legislature called for justice in the premises: frequent journeyings took place, resulting, after many conferences, in the consummation in 1885 of what is known as the "Better Terms Agreement." Under this agreement there was a re-adjustment of the per capita allowance to the Province, by which the Province was to receive annually \$120,000, based on an estimated population of 150,000 souls at 80c per head, to be increased on a census basis after the population exceeded 150,000 until the population reached 400,000 souls. The capital sum was also readjusted, to be calculated upon a population of 125,000. Provision was also made that the Province should annually receive \$50,000 for the support of the Government and \$100,000 in lieu of Public Lands.

This arrangement has been effective since 1885 with the addition of \$130,000 annually for cost of government as the result of the Quebec conference resolutions, effective also four years ago.

It will be observed that the increase in 1909 over 1870 to a very large extent is attributable to the increase of population, upon which the per capita allowance of 80c per head and as the result of the Quebec conference resolutions.

### **Under no Debt of Gratitude**

Manitoba is under no debt of gratitude to the Federal authorities for the increase of this latter item, inasmuch as it could not be singled out and treated unlike the other Provinces. There is no doubt that had Manitoba made this claim on its own initiative that no increase would have been given. Manitoba, therefore, in view of the resolutions of the Quebec Conference will hereafter receive \$180,000 by

half yearly payments on this account, that is for the cost of civil government.

### **Inequality of Treatment**

Having briefly shown the immature consideration given to matters of a financial character at the time the Province entered Confederation, as exemplified by the intermittent increase to the subsidy of the Province by the Federal authorities, it is proposed to point out the inequality of treatment regarding its present financial status compared to that of the other Provinces, and in other respects to point out that Manitoba has not received, and is not receiving, that measure of fair play and justice to which it is entitled as an integral and important part of the Confederation of Canada.

It has always been claimed by succeeding Legislatures that the intention of the promoters of Confederation has not been carried out in the creation of this Province, as it was in the union of the original Confederate Provinces, and the admission after this Province which became Confederated subsequent to the creation of Manitoba. It is evident that the spirit of the British North America Act is that each Province admitted into Confederation, as well as those originally Confederated, should be placed on the same status, more especially with reference to the control of the Public Lands within each Province being vested in each Province. The fact has never been lost sight of by Manitoba. At the very first session of the Legislature a motion was brought forward complaining that no assurance was given in the Speech from the Throne of any restoration of the Public Lands, indicating clearly that from the inception this was in the public mind.

A further, and even more anterior, reference to the Provincial history will be found embodied in the Petition of Rights presented to the Federal authorities by delegates from the old Red River Settlement or Colony of Assiniboia, being as follows:—

“That the territories heretofore known as Rupert’s Land and the North-West, shall not enter into Confederation with the Dominion of Canada except as a Province to be styled and known as the Province of Assiniboia. That the local Legislature of the Province of Assiniboia shall have full control over all the public lands of the Province.”

It is apparent from this declaration that the people then and their representatives had a fair conception of at least one thing, that on coming into Confederation they were entitled to privileges such as the other Provinces enjoyed. The eleventh clause of the Bill of Rights is an extraordinary demand, and shows that it was intended that the local Legislature should have full control over all lands in the Province.

On frequent occasions since Confederation, Manitoba has pressed upon the Federal authorities the right to control its public lands. It



has been pointed out that the older Provinces were so treated when entering Confederation, and it is within the knowledge of everyone in touch with the Canadian political history that this asset has proven a most valuable one.

### **How Other Provinces Were Treated**

The principle that each Province should control its own lands was even carried out in the case of Prince Edward Island, which had no public lands, but was allowed a sum of \$800,000 to enable her to acquire lands held by private parties within the Province. But in Manitoba, on her admission, there were public lands, and it has ever been the view of the successive Legislatures of Manitoba that the terms arbitrarily dictated by the Federal authorities in 1870 to the delegates from the old Red River Colony respecting the public lands should be annulled as not being in accord with the spirit of Confederation and the treatment extended to the other Provinces within the true meaning and intent of the British North America Act. And further, that full and adequate compensation should be made to the Province for its public domain, so improperly and unjustly appropriated by the Dominion authorities.

This Province is fully aware of the nature and extent of the request made, and is also alive to the fact that previous attempts had been made by the Federal authorities to controvert the position taken by the Province on this question.

It is true that to a very large extent these contentions have faded away, but inasmuch as the question is by no means a settled one as far as Manitoba is concerned, and as it may be that the same arguments may be again adduced, it is well to dwell briefly on this aspect of the case. Regarding the claim of the Hudson's Bay Company, it is claimed in well informed circles that the Government never established a claim to the title of the lands except to those to which Lord Selkirk had extinguished the Indian title and which were subsequently re-purchased from his successors by the Hudson's Bay Company.

The extinction of the Hudson's Bay title cannot be viewed in any other light than that of the purchase from the Hudson's Bay Company of certain rights held by that Company to the detriment of the people of Canada, and which were extinguished by the Government thereof in the same way that in other Provinces they have extinguished other rights created in former ages, and which obstructed the progress and development of the country.

### **Construction of Canadian Pacific Railway**

It is contended that the people of Manitoba should not be held responsible for the expenses incident to the establishment of the auth-

ority of the Dominion of Canada in 1870. The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway, a line running from one end of the Dominion to the other, is an enterprise of a wholly financial character, and the expenses therewith are properly chargeable to the whole Dominion. Although the construction of this line was one of the conditions upon which British Columbia entered Confederation, that Province was not called upon to contribute in any way towards its construction, but on the contrary was indemnified to the extent of \$100,000 annually for the right-of-way and for the land covering an area of 20 miles on each side of the line. Thus, in the case of British Columbia, the Province not only receives a benefit similar to what Manitoba is receiving and has received, but in addition receives compensation for the right-of-way as previously stated.

Why should Manitoba, as a Province, be made to contribute towards the construction of this railway while no other Province of Canada is charged a similar contribution. If it is right to confiscate the public domain of Manitoba to pay for the cost of the Canadian Pacific Railway through this Province as part of a great national highway, why was it not equally right to charge Ontario and Quebec with the cost of the Grand Trunk Railway, Ontario with the Welland Canal, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia with the Intercolonial Railway, and many other enterprises of a purely national character?

Not only is the position an untenable one, but it is further pointed out that Manitoba was forced to contribute 20,000 acres per mile of its own public lands for the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway through its boundaries. Today, therefore the anomalous position exists that British Columbia has received for a trifling concession of right-of-way through its mountains for the Canadian Pacific Railway a similar amount to Manitoba for the complete confiscation of its public lands.

### **Self-evident Injustice to Manitoba**

Surely the injustice is self-evident. Some estimate may be formed to what extent Manitoba has suffered by the unjust appropriation of its public lands by a perusal of some of the purposes to which the same have been devoted, a statement of which appears elsewhere.

It is safe to state that the acquisition or confiscation of the lands of Manitoba by the Dominion authorities has proven a most profitable investment for them. It is contended and urged with all the force possible, that the \$100,000 provided to be paid annually to the Province in lieu of lands is entirely unreasonable, and that it is the duty of the present Dominion Government to accord that justice to which Manitoba is entitled as a constituent part of the Confederation of Canada.

### **Comparison With the Two New Provinces to the West**

The unequal position of Manitoba at the present time is intensified, as shown by a reference to the manner in which the two new

Provinces to the West were treated at the time of their formation. The terms accorded to those two new Provinces amply demonstrates how unfairly Manitoba is being treated at the present time.

Each of the new Provinces to the West annually receive a large substantial payment in lieu of public lands, based on a valuation of value of \$37,500,000. These payments start from an annual payment of \$375,000, and may reach as high as an annual payment of \$1,125,500, according as the population increases. It is submitted that Manitoba is entitled to equal treatment in the matter of its public lands as the new Provinces referred to, and that the paltry pittance of \$100,000 at present paid to Manitoba is so unequal and disproportionate that its absurdity is evident by simply placing the two cases side by side.

With the financial arrangements on which the new Provinces became possessed of Provincial status, this Province is not particularly concerned or does it complain, except as it reflects that Manitoba suffers a marked disadvantage by comparison. These Provinces are given far superior terms and more advantageous privileges than those enjoyed by Manitoba which has a greater population than either, and the people of this Province very properly resent the inequality of treatment, and deems it their duty to urge in every constitutional way for the rectification of the gross wrong perpetrated.

### **Manitoba's Lands a Deep Rooted Matter**

The matter of the public lands of Manitoba is deep rooted and one that never will be settled finally except in a manner creditable to the people. It is further pointed out that no such considerations as were urged against Manitoba for the control of its public lands by the Dominion authorities, as before outlined, were presented or even suggested in the case of the new Provinces at the time of their formation, indicating dissimilarity of treatment, and emphasizing the fact that Manitoba always has been required to bear the brunt of continually placing before the Dominion authorities the falsity of their treatment in regard to public lands.

The manner in which the Province has been treated, too, with respect to the swamp lands is simply disgraceful. In another portion of this pamphlet will be found a full explanation of this subject, showing conclusively that while it was intended that the Province should receive upwards of 10,000,000 acres of swamp lands, only 2,000,000 acres have been received up to the present time.

The administration of the School Lands and the School Land-Fund is also unjustly retained. Interest at 5 per cent. is only al-

lowed thereon when the fund could be invested to greater advantage, and the lands are being sold to speculators.

It is contended that the financial arrangements of the Province of Manitoba with the Dominion of Canada at the present time are anything but satisfactory, and that no settlement that will not give Manitoba its full justice in the premises will ever be ratified by the people of this Province. As previously stated, Manitoba is a sister Province of Confederation, and is entitled to similar treatment to the other Provinces, and the people of Manitoba will resent the singling out of this Province by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government for treatment different to other Provinces of Confederation.

### **United Action Necessary to Procure Justice**

To procure justice to Manitoba it is necessary for the people to be united. At the present time it is simply scandalous the treatment being handed out to Manitoba by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government, not only with respect to its financial arrangements and the public lands of the Province, but also with regard to extension of the boundaries. The Province has been subjected to all kinds of indignities, and until Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government are made to appreciate that the people of Manitoba are earnest, then only will Manitoba receive that fair and honorable treatment to which it is entitled.

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### **THE LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY**

The Roblin Government, appreciating the importance of the Live Stock Industry of the Province, appointed a Commission about four years ago to fully inquire into and report upon this subject. This Commission made a very full report, which was carefully considered by the Government. The conclusion arrived at was that it was overwhelmingly evident that the sellers of live stock were not securing proper or just treatment or a satisfactory price from the private abattoirs, and as a protection and in order that the producer of live stock should be dealt with in a fair and open manner, the Government considered its duty to be to afford relief by legislation. Accordingly, at the 1910 Session of the Legislature the following Bill was passed. It provides for the establishing and operating of a public abattoir for the slaughter of cattle and other live stock. It is to be located in the City of Winnipeg or in the City of St. Boniface, the Government aid to be \$250,000. The industry will be operated by and under the control of an independent Commission, and the hope is that the departure will enable a higher price to be obtained by the producer or owner of live stock. In this way the "Middle Man," the private abattoir owners, will be cut out and prevented from making enormous profits as they have been doing in the past. The attitude of the Government in this

matter is still another evidence that it was alive to, and appreciative of, the rights and interests of the people.

### **The Public Abattoir Bill**

His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, enacts as follows:—

1. For the purpose of encouraging, fostering and developing the live stock industry of the Province, and bettering the conditions of those engaged therein, there may be appropriated from and paid to the City of Winnipeg or the City of St. Boniface, out of moneys to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Province a sum not exceeding fifty thousand dollars, for the purpose of acquiring a site for and assisting in establishing, equipping, operating and maintaining thereon a public market and a public abattoir for the slaughter of cattle and other live stock, together with a suitable cold storage plant.

2. For all and singular the said purposes the Government may enter into an agreement or agreements with the council of any city, containing such mutual covenants, provisos and conditions as may be agreed upon, and the council of any such city shall have power to enter into such agreement or agreements with the Government.

3. Upon and after the execution of the agreement or agreements hereinbefore referred to, the council of the said city shall have power and authority by by-law, and without the submission thereof for the approval of the electors qualified to vote on money by-laws in said city, to incur a debt or debts not exceeding the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars by the issue and sale of debentures. Such debentures shall bear such rate of interest, not exceeding five per centum per annum, payable at such times as the council of the said city may direct, and the principal of the same shall be payable at the time to be fixed by the council, not more than fifty years from the issue of the said debentures.

4. For the purpose of expending the said moneys and carrying out the provisions of this Act, and any matter or thing set forth in any agreement or agreements made pursuant thereto, the said Government shall have power to appoint not exceeding three commissioners, who shall be designated "The Board of Abattoir Commissioners."

5. In addition to performing the duties prescribed by this Act the said commissioners shall do and perform such other duties as may be set forth in any agreement or agreements between the Government and the city, made pursuant to the provisions of this Act.

6. No liability of the said Government, greater than the sum of fifty thousand dollars, shall be created by this Act.

7. This Act shall come into force on the day it is assented to.

### **The Abattoir Commission Appointed**

In pursuance of the Act above set forth, the Government has appointed the following commission:—

A. M. Campbell, of Woodlands;  
 Stephen Benson, of Neepawa;  
 R. A. C. Manning, of Winnipeg.

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### **COMPENSATION TO WORKMEN**

The important question of securing to workmen certain protective rights and privileges in case of injuries received while engaged in their ordinary employment, became an important question two years ago. The Government while appreciating the importance of the subject, found it difficult to harmonize the several interests involved so that no injustice would be done to either class, that is, the employer and the employee. A Bill was presented for the consideration of the Legislature in 1908, founded largely on the English Act. Upon consideration it was found that many of the provisions could not, with fairness to the employer, be made effective in a Province of the character of Manitoba. Hence at the request of Mr. Roblin, the Bill was withdrawn, he promising to appoint an independent Commission to take evidence and fully inquire into and report upon the subject. This Commission was appointed, and consisted of capable and unbiased men. Judge Locke, of Morden, well-known for his legal and other attainments, was made chairman. Voluminous evidence was taken and a report made. A Bill was prepared, based upon the report of the Commissioners, and passed at the 1910 Session of the Legislature. It meets with the approval of all interested. The Government dealt with the question in its usual businesslike and straight-forward manner, and thus a somewhat complicated question has been adjusted to the satisfaction of all parties interested.

### **What the Commission Recommended, and Which Have Been Crystallized Into Legislation**

1. That the Bill be made to apply to all employers of five or more workmen, and that the word employer be declared to include the Crown and Municipal corporations.
2. That the compensation be paid by the employers.
3. That the measure of compensation in non-fatal accidents be one-half of the diminution which the accident shall have caused to the wage earning capacity of the victim. Provided that where the injured workman is not a journeyman tradesman working at his own trade, that for the first month of his employment with the employer against

whom he claims compensation, he shall only be entitled to twenty-five per cent. of such diminution and for the second month 40 per cent. and thereafter as hereinbefore provided.

3A. That in case of fatal accidents, the compensation paid dependents shall not exceed the sum of \$1,500.

4. That notice of accident shall be given within fourteen days of the happening of the accidents, except where all parties entitled to compensation are out of the Province, when an additional fourteen days shall be allowed. Notice of claims to be given within three months of the happening of the accident, and action begun within six months from date of accident.

5. That the workman shall be limited to one remedy, and that he shall, in his notice claiming compensation, state what remedy he proposes to pursue, and that it be enacted that an infant equally with an adult shall be bound by such election.

6. That a casual workman be, as he has been in the Imperial Act, exempted from the benefit of the Act.

7. That compensation, in case of fatal accidents, be paid to dependents only resident in the Province at the time of the accident, and that any to whom compensation is payable for non-fatal accidents shall be disentitled to such compensation on becoming non-residents.

8. That compensation be paid only when the disability lasts over two weeks, and the liability for compensation to begin the third week

9. That compensation in case of permanent disability shall in no case exceed what would have been payable in case of death.

10. That in case of fatal accidents the compensation payable to dependents shall be paid into court, to be paid out in such sums and at such times as the judge may direct, and that in all other cases compensation be paid to the party injured.

11. That in case of total and permanent incapacity, and in case of death, negligence shall not be a bar to recovery except in case of drunkenness.

12. That should it be proved that the workman at the time of the accident was drunk, this shall be serious misconduct, and he shall be debarred compensation.

13. That the rescue or attempted rescue, of a fellow workman from a threatened danger shall not be deemed to be serious or wilful misconduct, and the accident will be deemed to have occurred "in the course of his employment."

14. That the Government should appoint and pay a skilled physician as medical referee, who decision in case of disagreements be-

tween the physician of the workman and of the employer should be final, and that such referee might on request at any time sit with an arbitrator as an assessor in fixing compensation.

15. That a workman should not be required to offer himself for review at shorter intervals than three months, except by order of a judge.

15(. That when a workman returns to work, the compensation that was received by him shall be reduced, so that his present wages and compensation should together amount to his former wages.

152. That when weekly compensation is commuted for a lump sum, the amount of such commutation shall, including the amounts already paid, not exceed in whole \$1,500.

153. That in case of fatal accidents compensation shall cease to any dependent, so soon as, in the opinion of the judge, such dependent is capable of self support.

154. That the judge may or may not award costs to either parties as to him may seem just, and if he allows costs, he shall tax and fix the amount thereof. In no case shall he award more than \$25 and costs against the petitioner or more than \$100 costs against the respondent.

16. That the word "dependent" should be defined "dependent for the necessities of life."

17. That provision should be made for a substantial deposit of cash or bonds to be made with the Government by all companies doing accident and liability insurance in the Province, and that all such companies should be required to make to the Provincial Government regular returns such as are now made to the Federal Government by Life Companies.

18. That in all cases where a claim is established against an employer, and he is covered by liability insurance, the party entitled by serving a written notice on the company or its representatives in Manitoba, shall have a charge against the said insurance company to the extent of its liability to the insured, or up to a sufficient amount to satisfy the award, and further, that the workman shall have right of action against the company as for a debt to that amount.

19. That the Boar of County Court Judges be forthwith commissioned to fix rules of Court, and that they may, as far as the same are applicable, adopt the rules of court prevailing under the Imperial Act.

Every interest concerned is satisfied with the Bill enacted by the Roblin Government—both the employer of labor and the employee—the fullest possible protection has been afforded to all classes.



**TOBIAS CRAWFORD NORRIS AND LOCAL GRIT AGGREGATION  
ARE ALL HIRED OPPONENTS OF PRESENT GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Norris and company, who, for the past three years, have played an engagement in the Legislative Chamber of the Province, consisting of Political Vaudeville of an amusing but pointless character, and for which the public treasury is required annually to disgorge \$1,000 per artist, are all of the Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde persuasion, which means that they have two distinct make-ups, one with which to fool and befuddle, if possible, the electorate, and the other—their real characters—to so acquit themselves by aspersions, muckraking, and general hypocrisy and innuendo, that their Ottawa masters and employers will retain their names on the Dominion pay roll. Below is the caste of the artistic coterie:—

School Lands Auctioneer—Tobias Crawford Norris.

Also Ditto—George H. Walton.

Indian Doctor—Dr. Armstrong.

Smallpox Doctor—Dr. Thornton.

Partner of Another One—Dr. McConnell.

Postmaster—J. Baird.

Major—V. Winkler.

Legal Expert—J. A. Campbell.

Land Titles Specialist—T. H. Johnson.

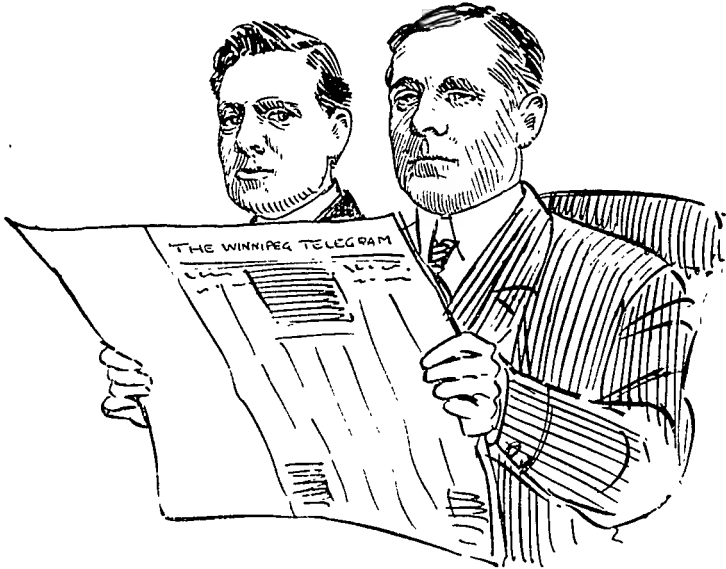
Homestead Inspector with easy hours—Capt. Jonasson.

Onlookers with Hopes—Balance of the Company.

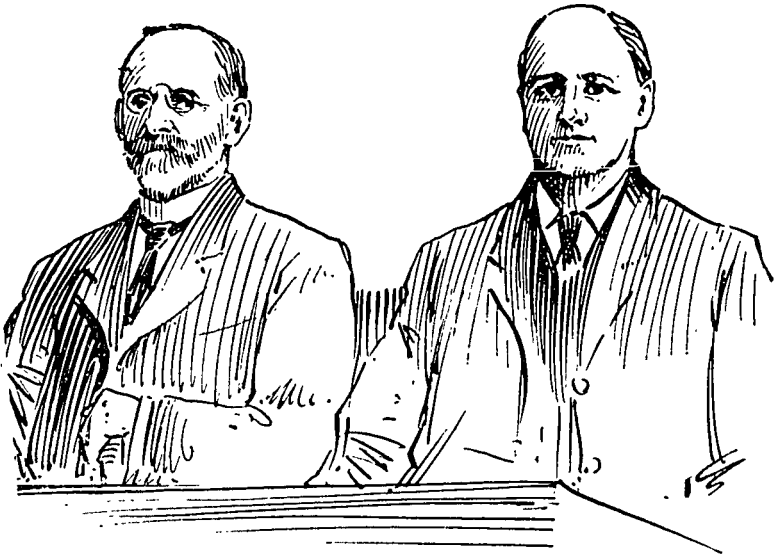
This last legislative mental acrobatic and juggling engagement expired with their performances last March, and the company will disband, after barnstorming the country, immediately on the eve of the next Provincial elections—on which date the public will accelerate their exit to private life. They will then be plain school lands auctioneers, Indian doctors, land titles specialists, homestead inspectors, smallpox doctors, and general political knockabouts. The reflection is a sad one! The hope is held out, however, that the aggregation will then again unite forces, and thus be enabled to revive with profit to themselves—as no doubt will be the case—that old familiar burlesque with which they are so familiar.

**“The Dominion Is Our Meat”**

## The Dominion Government Local Play Actors

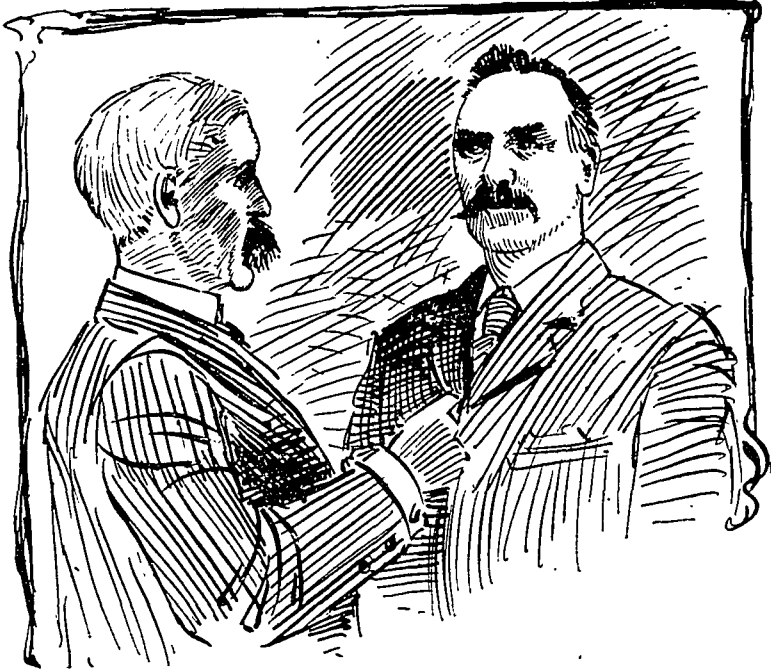


T. C. NORRIS (to Thos. H. Johnson)—“Guess we’re caught with the goods, Tom. However, you hang on to the \$6,000 and I think I can arrange to still keep on as Government Auctioneer no matter what these fellows do here.”



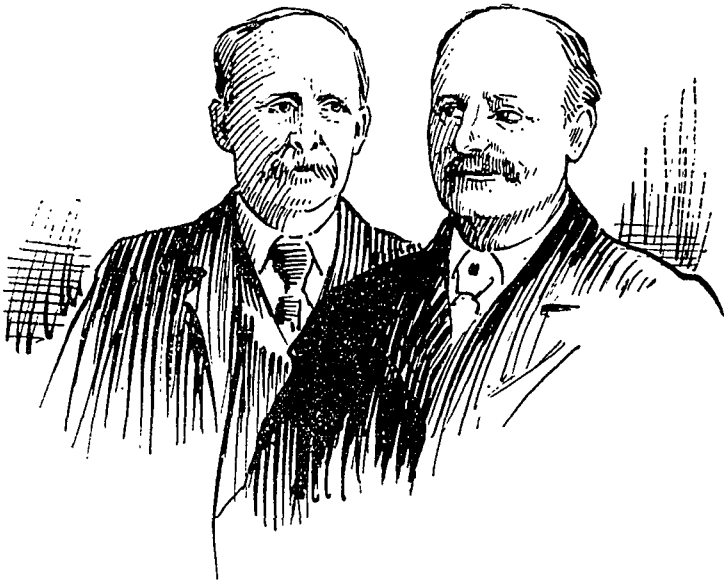
VALENTINE WINKLER—“By jove, Walton, they’ve got you. Still you and Norris will be all right. We’ll arrange for the Dominion to keep you on as auctioneers.”

GEO. WALTON—“I hope you’ll do the best you can, Winkler. You know I was good to you in the School Lands Sales and did the best I could in your interests. You’ll stick to me, old chap, won’t you?”



Dr. R. S. THORNTON—"Well, Armstrong, it serves you right taking money for doctoring Indians that you have never seen."

Dr. J. W. ARMSTRONG—"A lot of business you have to talk, Thornton. Taking money for smallpox when you don't know smallpox from itch."



B. J. McCONNELL—"Well, Baird, I guess you're up against it alright. Still, one thing you're safe with; they can't take away your salary for the postoffice."

J. B. BAIRD—"I suppose, McConnell, you'll be all right. Your check from Ottawa came to your partner, didn't it?"



GEO. MALCOLM—"Well, Ross, will this hit you?"

D. A. ROSS—"Don't think it will. I never could get the fellows at Ottawa to recognize my services. They don't seem to think I was any good. I think the work I'm doing this session will qualify me for good graft from some quarter. You haven't got anything yet, have you, Malcolm?"

GEO. MALCOLM—"No, not yet; but by Jove, if these other fellows are getting it like that, I don't see why I shouldn't come in for a share."



J. A. CAMPBELL, Dauphin—"I apparently don't count for anything; discarded by friends and foes alike."

## PAST GRIT DRAINAGE DISTRICTS CONTRACTS AND THOSE OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT

### A Strong Contrast

Under the Greenway Government two Drainage Districts were formed, known as the St. Andrews Marsh Drainage District and the Boyne Swamp Drainage District. The manner in which these contracts were let and the work performed was a most disgraceful proceeding.

#### St. Andrews Marsh Drainage District

In the St. Andrews Marsh District the advertisement called for an expenditure of \$80,000, but debentures were issued for \$100,000. The contract was awarded to a friend of the Government at a lump sum of \$91,760. No penalty clause was introduced into the contract for the non-completion of the work. Straw bondsmen were merely taken as security. The bank, under instructions of the then Minister of Public Works, made advances to the contractor to the extent of \$17,000 before the debentures were realized upon. Subsequently overdrafts were permitted to be made by the contractor at the bank at the request of the Minister and the Deputy Minister of the Department to the extent of \$30,000, and it also transpired that important changes were made in the contract and the plans without the knowledge and consent of the Department. The drainage area, without the consent of the property owners of the district was decreased and the excavation increased.

A steam dredge was purchased at a cost of over \$4,500, and the contractor was permitted to use the same at no cost to himself. This dredge was afterwards abandoned by the contractor, and became a dead asset to the Department.

When the present government took office it was claimed by the settlers that the work performed was not productive of satisfactory results, and this was so obviously the case that the Minister of Public Works in the Roblin Government was obliged to relieve a large portion of lands included in the drainage area from taxation.

It was also found that a large proportion of the lands in the district were untaxable. A Commission was appointed by the Government to go fully into the whole question, and after an exhaustive enquiry it was recommended that the Government relieve all lands in the district from taxation which were clearly not benefited.

In such an unsatisfactory condition, therefore, are the affairs of this district that the result will be that a large loss will be sustained by the Government, the Province having guaranteed the principal and interest of the debentures.

### The Boyne Swamp Drainage Contract

This disgraceful transaction cannot be better described than to quote from the speech of the Hon. Robert Rogers, Minister of Public Works, in the Legislature during the Session of 1900. Mr. Rogers said:—

There is another Drainage District, No. 2, known as the Boyne Marsh. They had the same contractor, and let us see what kind of treatment Mr. Whitehead got here. His tender for the work was \$330,000, and is short and interesting. It reads this way:—

“Tender for work on the Boyne Marsh. I will do the work as per specifications for \$300,000, 11c per cubic yard.”

“That was all he had to say. He got the contract, but before he got it he got a loan of \$11,000. His tender was accepted on October 1st, but on August 8th a progressive estimate was made, and he was given \$20,000 on two dredges for use in prosecuting the work. At the same time there was an advance upon the same plant on account of Drainage District No. 1. On December 19th, another progressive estimate was made, and \$9,405 was paid for 95,000 cubic yards of excavation. On May 4th, 1899, an estimate was passed for an advance of \$10,000 upon 3,000 cords of wood. On August 9th, 1899, a voucher was issued for \$32,296, being a progress estimate upon 336,326 cubic yards. In this third item they pay Mr. Whitehead over again for the item paid in full before. This is evidence of an unbusinesslike management, I am sure. By that means, Mr. Whitehead had \$9,000 for work which he had never done at all. They advanced him \$10,800 for cordwood and when they advanced it in the spring of the year, if they were conducting affairs on a businesslike method, they would have deducted this from the estimate, but they did not do so. They paid him again later on, and did not deduct anything for the wood, which by this time, had gone up in smoke.

“On December 31st, we find that the contractor had \$20,000 advanced on dredges, \$9,405 paid twice, \$10,800 advanced on wood, and accounts paid by the Government to David Alexander and others of \$524.10, or a round total indebtedness to the people of the country, and which he had succeeded in obtaining in the manner described, of \$40,729.10.

“That was not so bad. When we came into power, we found, upon making a re-measurement, that the engineers had paid Mr. Whitehead for work he had never done, to the extent of \$4,500, making a total of some \$45,000 he owed to the people of the Province. This is the sort of thing we have had to contend with, and it has taken us some time to rectify it. But we have made improvements every year, and are glad to be in the strong financial position that we are today.

" But even after our friends were defeated, they still kept an interest in Mr. Whitehead, and they came down here with certain letters from him asking for an extension of the contract and specifications. He was obliged by the contract to throw the earth back 16 feet, and he was asking just before these gentlemen left office to have this reduced to eight feet, in order that he might, from the proper management which he expected from the Government of that time, be able to carry on the work under modified conditions.

### **The Contractor Was Overpaid \$45,000**

Over-measurement paid, 49,226 cubic yards,	
at 11c. . . . .	\$ 5,414 86
Over payment, first estimate paid twice.....	9,405 00
Advance on dredges. . . . .	20,000 00
Advance on cordwood. . . . .	10,800 00
	<hr/>
	\$45,619 86

### **The Good Work Performed Under the Present Government**

Since the present Government assumed office seventeen new drainage districts have been formed, and the work either completed, or is under construction. Throughout the whole work the various details in connection therewith have been executed in a most businesslike and methodical manner. No favorite contractors employed. No extravagant and questionable payments. The accomplishments have been singularly wonderful. Lands hitherto unfit for cultivation have been made arable, and their value increased, in some cases to the extent of five or six times their former value. Over a million acres of land have been thus reclaimed and rendered fit for settlement. Over a thousand miles of drains have been dug.

### **THE THIN-RED-LINE ARTIST—LEECH**

This was the greatest outrage ever perpetrated upon a free people. At the Dominion elections of 1904 the voters' lists for the several constituencies in the Province were designedly and deliberately mutilated by cowardly Grit henchmen and heelers. The names of thousands of good Conservatives were struck off these lists by a stroke of the pen. The perpetrators of this heinous wrong are still at large. Mr. R. E. A. Leech, Liberal organizer, is provided for. A Mr. McLeod, one of Mr. Leech's assistants in the red line outrage, has been appointed his secretary, both drawing large salaries. W. H. Ingram, another of those worthies, is receiving a handsome salary as inspector of school lands. A Mr. Kenner, an active instrument in striking off Conservatives, from the lists, has also been taken care of, also Mr. Neighorn, appointed secretary to C. A. Young; Mr. Ayotte has

also been looked after, as also others holding at the present time more or less high and exalted positions.

This Thin Red Line artist, Leech, appears to have been born with all the characteristics that his name implies. Like the demand of the horse leach his cry is "Give, Give, Give!" and, of course, he must be kept quiet and his demands are therefore promptly met by the Ottawa machine.

The following dispatch from Ottawa, under date February 27th, 1910, will give some idea of the ramblings of the gentleman named, and what he has drawn for his "special work," since his engagement:

### **Leech Draws Fat Government Wage**

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#### **Thin-Red-Line Artist's Salary and Expense Bill Bigger Than Ever**

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OTTAWA, Feb. 27.—R. E. A. Leech, of Thin Red Line fame, besides being engaged at the Liberal headquarters at Winnipeg, is also drawing a fat salary from the Dominion Government at Ottawa for various services which he is expected to perform. In answer to questions put last week by W. D. Staples, Macdonald, Manitoba, Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior, handed down some interesting information with respect to Mr. Leech.

At the present time he is supposed to be inspector of Dominion lands for the Province of Saskatchewan. He was first employed by the Dominion Government January 1, 1905, as inspector of Dominion lands agencies, and his valuable services since then have called for numerous increases in salary, and the allowance of expense sheets which have gone far beyond what he actually drew in salary.

Furthermore, he has been in the employ of the Ottawa authorities since the date of his appointment, most of the time in the capacity of inspecting Dominion land agencies. For a portion of the year 1908 he was employed in connection with the distribution of seed grain, and at the present moment, according to the information of the Minister of the Interior, handed down in the House, he is a supposed inspector of Dominion lands.

For six months of the term 1904-05, Mr. Leech drew a salary of \$1,000, during which time his expense bill was \$840.60. For the following year his salary allowance is given as \$2,000, and his expenses for the same period \$3,676. For nine months of the next year he



received a salary allowance of \$1,500, and his expenses totalled \$2,736.02.

The following term, 1907-08, his salary was \$2,000; 1908-09, \$2,666.66, and for ten months of 1909-10, \$2,500. His expense money for the same respective terms was \$2,403.79, \$2,766.53, and \$3,350.

Mr. Leech, in other words, has drawn since his appointment, \$11,666.66 as salary and \$16,772.74 as expense money, a total of \$28,439.40.

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### **T. H. JOHNSON AND HIS ABNORMAL APPETITE FOR PUBLIC MONEY**

The stupendous cost to the people of Canada of the Transcontinental Railway, which has jumped to two hundred million dollars, is readily explainable, if many such rapacious appetites, as is evidently possessed by our friend Johnson, require to be satisfied. Mr. Johnson evidently looked upon this political client as an easy mark.

In 1908 he put in bills for passing titles amounting to over \$4,700. His regular rate for passing an ordinary Torrens title, for which Winnipeg lawyers charge \$5, was no less than \$30. There were 84 titles reaching the sum of \$2,520, or some six times the ordinary rate. In addition, Mr. Johnson, it was shown, had devised a delightful scheme for increasing the bills. When a title was wanted on a section all owned by one man, instead of taking out one title, which was all that was necessary, Mr. Johnson made out four titles, charging \$30 in each case, or twenty times the ordinary fee or four times his own regular fee. Time and again this was shown to be the case.

It was shown that time and again Mr. Johnson had drawn three and four titles on parcels of land where only one was necessary, charging in each case \$30 a title, amounting to \$90 or \$120 where even, at his own rate, \$30 was all that was justifiable. It was also shown that Mr. Johnson had no instructions from the Commission to draw up titles in this manner.

It was also shown that there were thirty-two titles drawn of land held by the Province of Manitoba, covering that many quarter sections. These thirty-two quarters were comprised in eighteen separate certificates, and in fact might have been covered by even a much less number of transfers.

#### **Even Charlie Young Protested**

Mr. Johnson charged \$30 each for the whole 32, with disbursements extra, and as well making the country pay \$3 each for the necessary registrations. It came to light also that even Charles A. Young,

the Transcontinental Commissioner, could not approve of Mr. Johnson's bills, and entered a protest, resulting in a cut in the charges for drawing up the titles for the St. Boniface property for the shops which "Cousin" J. H. Kern sold to the Commissioner for a big rake-off. Mr. Johnson charged \$900, although there were only five transfers of titles and only three necessary.

On three of the titles, Mr. Johnson presented in 1907 a bill for \$600. He admitted, after considerable cross-examination, that he had received a letter from Mr. Young protesting against the bill, and saying that he must have meant \$60. The charge was finally reduced to \$500. Mr. Johnson claimed that the \$600 included, in addition to drawing the titles, the responsibility he shouldered for aiding Mr. Young in carrying out the negotiations. It was then shown that in 1907, Mr. Johnson had rendered a bill for \$75 for the very same service as for this bill, and this was cut down to \$50.

### A Lame Explanation

Mr. Johnson gave a most lame explanation of his reason for putting in the supplementary bill of \$600. He modestly said he feared if he put in too high a bill in 1906 the Railway Commissioners might think he was "the whole thing."

To quote Mr. Johnson—"I felt at the time the charge was ridiculously low. I feared, though, if I rendered a large bill it would appear as if I was the whole thing, and Mr. Young was merely looking on, so the following year I put in a bill for the \$600."

"Did not Mr. Young write protesting against the bill, and saying you must have meant \$60 instead of \$600?" asked Mr. Meighan.

At first Mr. Johnson's memory failed him, but he admitted it was true.

In connection with Mr. Johnson's bill of 1906-07, contained in the public accounts reports just before the election, it is interesting to note that his bill was actually cut in two by the Commissioners, but the following year Mr. Johnson evidently squared himself by putting in far larger and additional bills.

To summarise, there was in all 89 titles charged for. Of these five were represented by the Kern and Matthews deal, being four Torrens titles and one old system title. For these five Mr. Johnson charged \$900 and all disbursements. Of the remaining 84 titles, 68 were shown to have been Torrens titles and sixteen old system, and even in this it appeared from the bill that three were duplicates. Of the 68 Torrens titles, 32 were, as stated above, held by the Province of Manitoba in only eighteen certificates, several covering four, three and

two quarter sections. Many times other quarter sections were held by men in blocks of two or three covered by one certificate, but in every case Mr. Johnson's firm had split them into separate quarters, and in each case the Transcontinental paid the full \$30 fee and all disbursements.

### Johnson's Little Bill In Detail

Fee upon passing title, 7 at \$30..\$	210 00		
Attending Springfield council, two days, \$25 and \$40 . . . . .	65 00		
Sundry fees . . . . .	188 60		
Outlay . . . . .	74 23		
	<hr/>	\$ 537 83	\$ 74 23
Passing titles, 6 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 180 00		
Outlay . . . . .	56 13		
	<hr/>	236 13	56 13
Passing titles, 7 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 210 00		
Outlay.. . . .	36 56		
	<hr/>	246 56	36 56
Sundry fees . . . . .	\$ 349 40		
Outlay . . . . .	68 71		
	<hr/>	418 11	68 71
Passing titles, 10 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 300 00		
Outlay.. . . .	62 88		
	<hr/>	362 88	62 88
Passing titles, 28 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 840 00		
Outlay . . . . .	107 28		
	<hr/>	947 28	107 28
Sundry fees.. . . .	\$ 73 50		
Outlay . . . . .	7 82		
	<hr/>	81 32	7 82
Passing titles, 17 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 510 00		
Outlay.. . . .	99 24		
	<hr/>	609 24	99 24
Examining and reporting on titles, examining certificate of title and land purchased from E. C. Matthews, for \$84,000 (claim reduced over \$30,000) . . . . .	\$ 400 00		
Fees already paid.. . . .	60 00		
	<hr/>	340 00	

Passing titles to land purchased from Kern for \$138,000 claim reduced over \$48,000) . . . . .	\$ 500 00		
Fees already paid . . . . .	30 00		
	<hr/>	470 00	
Passing titles, 5 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 150 00		
Expenses . . . . .	33 69		
	<hr/>	183 69	33 69
Sundry fees . . . . .	\$ 13 50		
Outlay . . . . .	13 82		
	<hr/>	27 32	13 82
Passing titles, 7 at \$30 . . . . .	\$ 210 00		
Outlay . . . . .	50 96		
	<hr/>	260 96	50 96
		<hr/>	
		\$4721 32	\$611 32
Passing titles, 84 at \$30 . . . . .	\$2,520 00		
Re Kern and Matthews . . . . .	(900 00)		
Sundry fees . . . . .	690 00		
Outlay . . . . .	611 32		
	<hr/>		
	\$4,721 32		

### The Grafting Continues

Unabashed, however, by the disclosures, as above set forth, Mr. Johnson still continues doing business at the same old stand. The Transcontinental is his meat. His name appears for further prodigious graft in succeeding public accounts of the Dominion, and bear in mind this is the gentleman that has the audacious presumption to make vile insinuations against the characters of honorable men.

### Drew Upwards of \$1,500 in 1909

The public accounts show that Mr. Johnson drew \$30 for each title put through for the Transcontinental Railway in 1909. Not only was this the case, but he received a fee of \$200 for a trip to Ottawa in 1909, to explain before a Committee of the House the expert system devised by him by which a huge graft was possible for his especial benefit. For this trip, too, he was paid his travelling expenses to Ottawa, amounting to \$134.40. Such conduct as Mr. Johnson has been guilty of is unworthy of any honorable man. He is but a minion of the Ottawa Government, however, which probably explains his conception of right and wrong.

We leave him to wallow in the Grit quagmire. When he departs from this earthly sphere an epitaph should be inscribed to his memory:

"The Transcontinental Railway was always his  
friend. He well deserved the epithet, *TO-HAVE-  
AND-TO-HOLD JOHNSON*."

## HOW THE OTTAWA FRIENDS OF THE LOCAL GRIT COTERIE DISSIPATE OUR RESOURCES

### A Sifton-Brother-in-Law-Burrows Combination

The following is a list of timber berths granted to Mr. Burrows, Sifton's brother-in-law, between 1898 and 1904. A majority of them were obtained immediately before or soon after certain favorable changes were made in the regulations:—

No. of Berth.	Date Granted	Area Square Miles
814 ... ..	May 30, 1898 ... ..	15
827 ... ..	Sept. 4, 1898 ... ..	44
966 ... ..	.....	50
992 ... ..	Dec. 30, 1901 ... ..	40
1000 ... ..	Feb. 10, 1902 ... ..	5
1001 ... ..	Feb. 10, 1902 ... ..	6
1002 ... ..	Feb. 10, 1902 ... ..	4
1046 ... ..	March 7, 1903 ... ..	40
1047 ... ..	March 7, 1903 ... ..	50
1054 ... ..	April 8, 1903 ... ..	1
1068 ... ..	June 24, 1903 ... ..	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
1073 ... ..	July 15, 1903 ... ..	20
1093 ... ..	Nov. 11, 1903 ... ..	12
1094 ... ..	Nov. 11, 1903 ... ..	27
1099 ... ..	Nov. 11, 1903 ... ..	44
1120 ... ..	Jan. 27, 1904 ... ..	15
1191 ... ..	Dec. 7, 1904 ... ..	50
1192 ... ..	Dec. 7, 1904 ... ..	50

According to Mr. Burrows' own statement made in the House of Commons (Hansard, 1908, page 8756), he secured in all in his own name 434 square miles, or 341,760 acres. He has also a half interest in the Imperial Pulp Company, which has acquired over 400 square miles, and was interested as a silent, but exceedingly active and highly profited partner, in a purchase of at least 250 square miles more.

Thus the brother-in-law of Sifton is put in possession of a domain. Who is the silent partner?

Has anyone ever heard Tobias Crawford Norris utter a word of criticism of this outrageous giving away of the valuable timber area of the West?

## **The Grit Land Deal**

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**A Rake-off—\$122,800**

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**An Object Lesson for the Local Grit Purity Politicians**

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**The Country Robbed of An Enormous Amount**

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In the summer of 1905, it had been decided by the Government Commission which is building the Eastern section of the Transcontinental, and by the Grand Trunk Pacific Company, that the terminals and shops of the railway system should be near the City of St. Boniface, across the Red River from Winnipeg. Mr. C. A. Young, one of the Commissioners, who is a brother of Senator Young, and was, before his appointment, an active politician in Manitoba, assumed the duty of purchasing the land required.

Mr. Young did not hurry about it. He allowed the autumn of 1905 and the following winter and spring to pass. In November of 1906 he considered that matters were ripe for a land purchase.

**Market Value \$125 Per Acre**

Meanwhile the middlemen were moving. John Henry Kern, of Moose Jaw, who kept a saloon in his own town and had a business of the same kind in Winnipeg, appeared on the scene about the time the location of the terminals was settled. At the end of September he had sized up the situation and bought from Finley McIntosh 160 acres for \$120 an acre, or \$20,000 for the lot. Apparently there was some reduction made, as the amount paid was only \$19,200. Half the money was paid when the option was taken.

About the same time Mr. Kern took an option on 480 acres adjoining, at the same price, \$125 per acre, or \$60,000 for the lot. He made a small payment down. This purchase was made from the Arctic Tee Company, composed of clever business men, who thought they were making a good sale.

In May, 1906, Mr. Kern took an option from James Hamilton on 320 acres more at \$125 per acre, which seemed to be the current price of this land. This time he took in another Moose Jaw saloon keeper

named E. C. Matthews, as partner in the deal. He assigned his option to Mr. Matthews, in whose name the land was afterwards transferred, but retained a half interest.

Kern had now 640 acres in his own name and a half interest in 320 more. Those options had been taken in the open market, under the eye of Commissioner Young, who lived in Manitoba, knew where the shops and terminals were to be, and could have bought at the same price.

#### **Government Pays \$250 to \$325 Per Acre**

In November, 1906, Commissioner Young proceeded to buy the land he wanted. He concluded that he needed 800 acres and he first bought 480 acres from Kern. Mr. Kern kept back 160 acres, and agreed with Mr. Young on a price for the other 480 acres, on condition that the workshops should be placed within 500 feet of Kern's remaining quarter section. On this condition Mr. Young paid Mr. Kern \$287.50 an acre, with the understanding that the price was to be \$325 an acre, or \$18,000 more if the shops were not so located. So we have the following transaction:—

Mr. Kern paid .....	\$ 59,200
Government paid Kern (at least) .....	138,000
Profit .....	78,800
Or 133 per cent.	

Next came the purchase by the Commissioner of the 320 acres held under option by Kern and Matthews. In November, 1906, Mr. Young bought this land for \$84,000 (250 an acre for one 160 acres, and \$275 for the other). Kern and Matthews had held their option only since May, and had paid only one-third of their purchase price of \$40,000. The other two-thirds was not paid until the Government had made an advance of \$30,000 to Kern and Matthews to enable them to acquire their title. So, not only did the Commissioner allow the middlemen a profit of 110 per cent., but he furnished them the capital to carry through the operation. The two deals together work out as follows:—

#### **Rake-off 125 Per Cent.**

Paid by the middlemen .....	\$ 99,200
Paid by the Government .....	222,000
Profits .....	122,800
Or 123 per cent.	

There was never the slightest need of these intermediaries. The Commissioners knew better than Kern or Matthews what land they would require. They could have bought from McIntosh, the Arctic

Ice Company and Hamilton at the same price that the middlemen paid. If lands increased in value afterwards, it was because of these terminal works, and even if the property had been expropriated the Government would not have been made to pay for the prospective value caused by Government operations.

It is a clear case of unnecessary and improper expenditure for which no decent excuse was or can be found. This \$122,800 was simply taken from the people of Canada and given to middlemen who were not required in the matter at all.

Tobias Crawford Norris and his co-workers should receive inspiration and pointers from the above.



## The Agricultural College and What it is Doing for the Farming Community of the Province

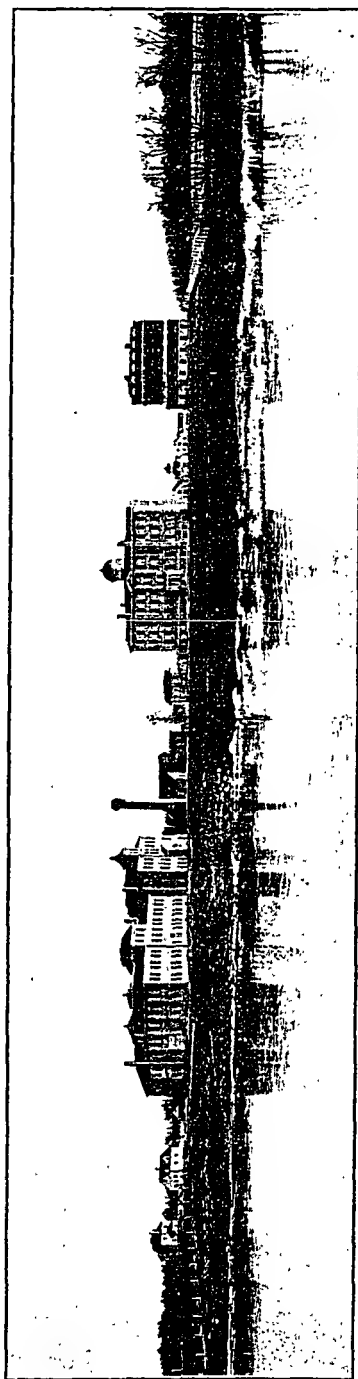
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One of the greatest boons to the agricultural interests of the Province was the erection of the Manitoba Agricultural College by the Roblin Government. For some years before the present administration assumed office, Mr. Greenway talked of the erection of a college where the young men of the Province could be educated in the most improved methods of farming, but the late premier did nothing more than talk. He did not make a single move to bring to a reality what was recognized to be a necessity if the farmers of the Province of Manitoba were to occupy the same position in the agricultural world as the farmers of other provinces.

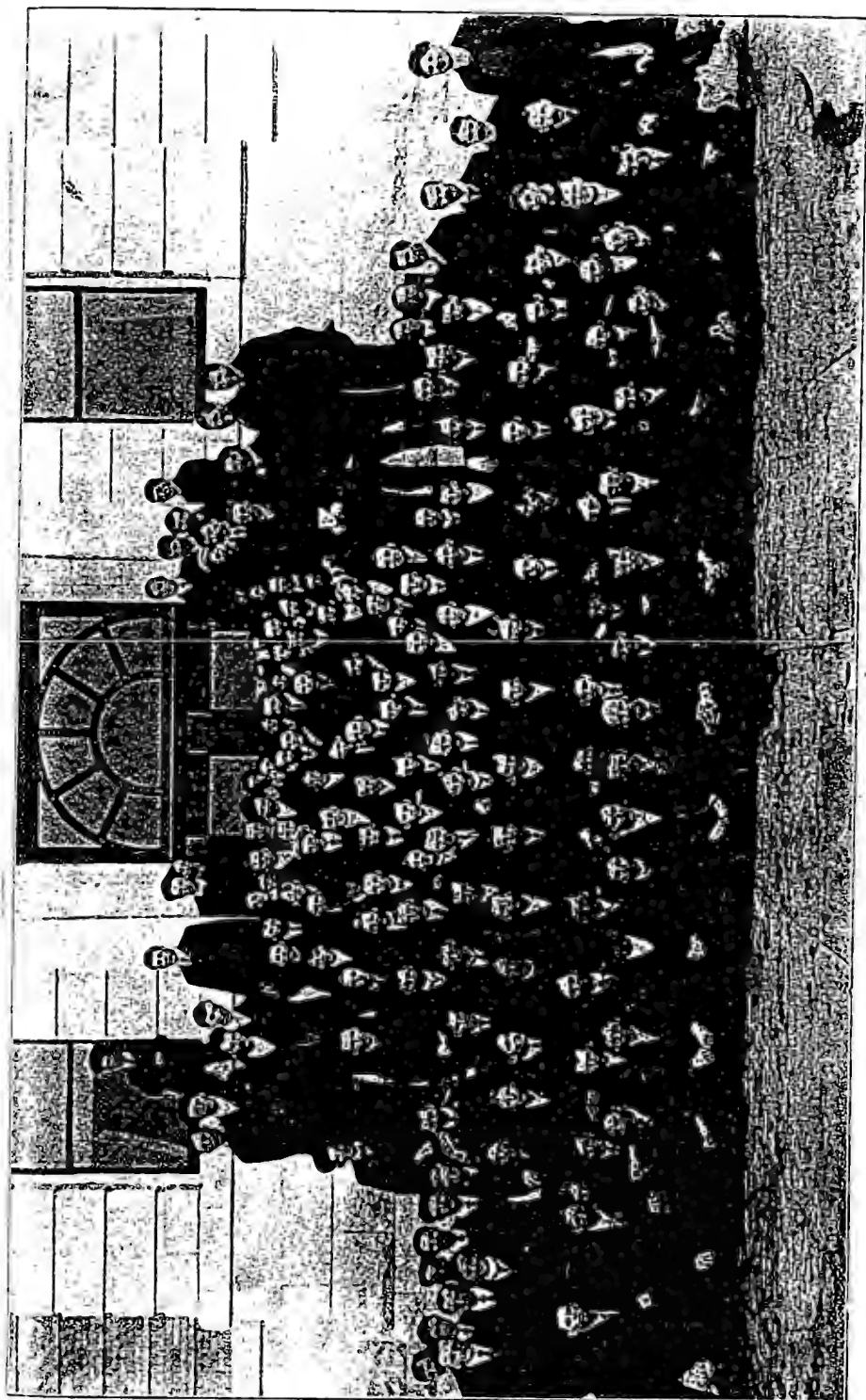
In its platform announced in 1899, the Conservative party of Manitoba declared its intention of having an agricultural college constructed should it be returned to power. One of the Roblin Government's first moves was to carry out the promise it had made to the electors in this regard, and Manitoba today can boast of having one of the best institutions for the training of the young men of the Province in farming. It is second to none. The work has been carried out at a large cost, but none will attempt to claim that the money is not well spent. The college is doing a splendid work, which is and will continue to be appreciated to the fullest extent by those engaged in agricultural pursuits.

There are several buildings connected with the college, and each of them is thoroughly up-to-date in every respect, leaving nothing to be desired from the point of comfort for the students or the needs of those engaged in the instruction of the young men and women who are taking courses in practical agriculture and domestic science. Up to the present time over half a million dollars has been expended for grounds, but still more is to be spent, one of the latest decisions of the Government being to erect a domestic science building, where the young women will be trained in a work that will make them the more useful in the home. Already the instructor in this branch has been engaged, and is giving the Normal school students and teachers lessons in domestic economy. This work has been carried on during the vacation, and the success which attended the opening course was far beyond expectations.

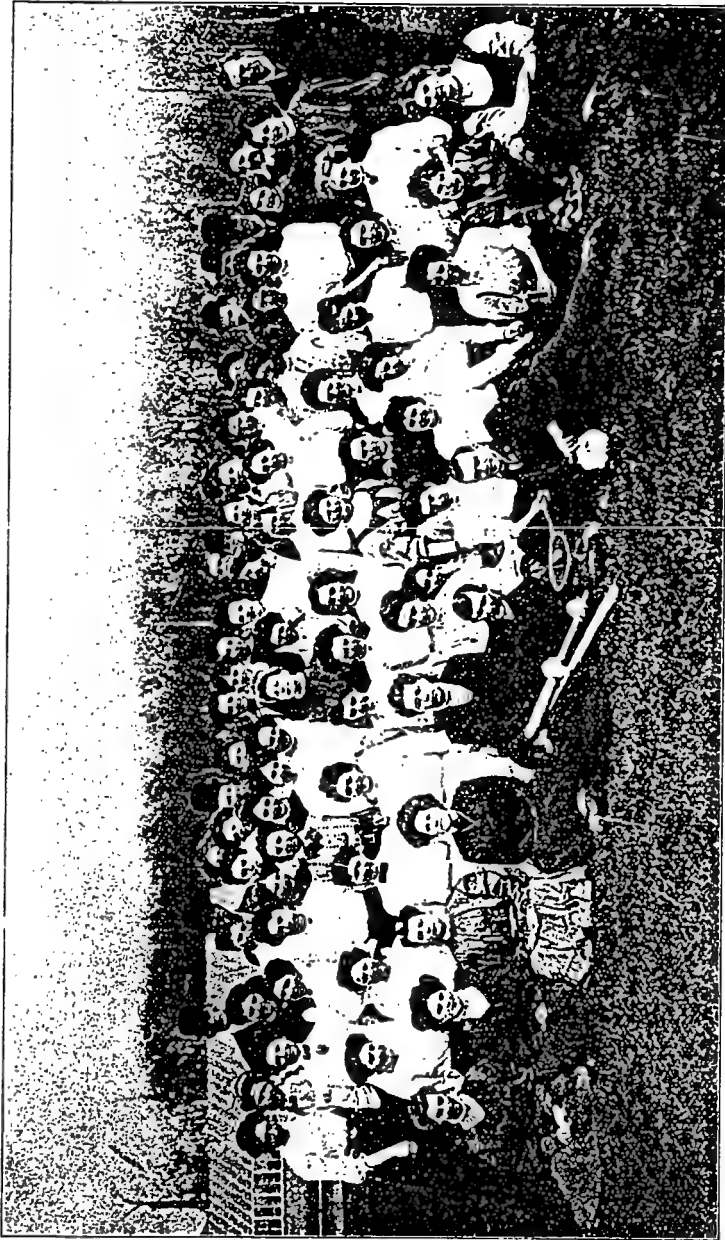
In addition to the erection of a domestic science building, the Government has decided to extend the usefulness of the college by adding to the farm a large tract of land immediately adjoining the present



AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE BUILDINGS



STUDENTS AT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE



STUDENTS IN DOMESTIC SCIENCE AT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

grounds. When the college buildings were constructed it was thought that they would be fully large enough to meet the needs of the institution for many years to come, but already it is apparent that unless the capacity of the college is increased it will be impossible to accommodate all who apply for permission to take the regular course. The college is beautifully situated, close to the western limits of the City of Winnipeg, and on the south bank of the Assiniboine river. It has an abundant supply of good water secured from artesian wells. The buildings are all heated by steam from a central plant. They are lighted by electricity and drained by a system of sewers controlled entirely on the college grounds.

The Roblin Government has thus made a reality out of a Grit myth.

#### **A Large Enrolment of Students Proving that the College is Being Appreciated and Taken Advantage Of**

The enrolment of students on the 31st of March, 1910 was 592, of these

207 took full course.

155 teachers took Normal course.

55 pupils took the engineering course.

175 pupils took short course for farmers.

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#### **TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR MANITOBA — ANOTHER FORWARD STEP TO BE TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT**

One of the most recent of the many forward steps taken by the Roblin Government has a very important bearing on the education of the young in the Province. With Manitoba so largely agricultural in its character, the Government has naturally devoted the major part of its attention in the direction of benefiting the farmers, and it now considers that the time has come when it should enact legislation along a line which has been under consideration for some time, and which will prove of inestimable value in fitting the boys and girls for the battle of life. This legislation relates to manual training in the schools, and ere long this class of instruction will be given.

In the Legislature, on March 15th last, Hon. Robert Rogers, after speaking of the Workmen's Compensation Act, and the benefits that would accrue to it for the working classes, said that for a very considerable time the Government had been legislating for the interests of the farmers, and for the interests of the classes, and the time had now arrived when the Government of the Province felt a duty resting upon

it in respect to more advanced technical and mechanical education in Manitoba.

"I am glad to say," declared Mr. Rogers, "that the Government have reached the conclusion that the time has arrived when we should appoint a commission, of which the Minister of Education will be a member, to take this matter up during the recess, and to give it that full and careful consideration that it deserves, and this will enable this Legislature at its next session to give the idea careful attention, and, I trust, supplement the recommendations at that time, not only by legislation, but by financial assistance to provide mechanical and technical education for the urban population of the Province. This, in my opinion, is the most important task that now confronts the Government of the day of this Province, that of giving that assistance and lending every effort and energy to promote such a condition of affairs for the advancement and betterment of the people of the Province, who desire to take advantage of such education."

With technical education in the schools the standard of the educational system of Manitoba will be still further increased.

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### THE HUDSON'S BAY LAND GRANT BUGABOO

This was another Greenway tangle left to the Roblin Government to solve.

The Government of Manitoba were entitled to 256,000 acres as security for the bonds issued with respect to forty miles of this railway partially completed. When the Greenway Government assumed office the matter of the Dominion Government handing over the land grant was still in statu quo. The Dominion Government was asked what would be necessary in order to put the forty miles in such condition as would entitle the Government of Manitoba to the land grant; and although the Greenway Government was informed that the sum necessary was \$25,000, and the fact that at several sittings of the Legislature the necessary amount to do the work was voted, no action was taken. Thus the matter stood until 1898. In the meantime the H. B. Railway charter and franchises were acquired by the Lake Manitoba Railway and Canal Company (now the Canadian Northern). On the 13th May, 1898, this company entered into a contract with the Government for the construction of a line from Sifton northwesterly to the Saskatchewan. In this contract the following clause appears as to the H. B. Railway land grant:—

"20. The Company further expressly agrees with the Government that the Company will, from and out of any land grant that may be earned in respect of the portion of the line of railway herein agreed

to be aided, cause to be assigned or transferred to the Government all the right, title, and interest in and right to patents for *two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres of land in the Province of Manitoba, which shall be fairly fit for settlement, a portion of such grant to be selected therefrom by the Government by alternate odd-numbered sections in the odd-numbered townships and odd-numbered ranges, commencing at the southeastern odd-numbered townships of such land grant, thence westerly along the southern tier of townships, thence easterly along the third tier of townships, and so on northward until the said two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres, fairly fit for settlement, have been selected, but not to include any portion of the original land grant to the Company, as scheduled by the Order-in-Council bearing date the sixth day of June, 1892, or any lands sold in the ordinary course of business to intending or actual settlers, and such land when transferred to the Government shall be accepted by the Government in satisfaction of any claim which the Government may have against the Winnipeg and Hudson's Bay Railway and Steamship Company, or the Winnipeg Great Northern Railway, or against the property and assets of such companies, or either of them; or shall at the request of the contractors, assign to the contractors, or to whom they may appoint, the claim and demand of the Province of Manitoba, as against the said Railway Companies or either of them in this clause mentioned, and any security held in respect thereof; and it is herein agreed that, as to the part of the Company's line beyond the said eighty miles, the guarantee in this contract provided for, shall not, if so decided by the Government, come into force until the Company have satisfied the Government that by the construction of the line of railway hereby agreed to be aided such land grant shall be earned, and that the Company shall be in such a position on said line being built to assign and transfer the same as above mentioned."*

The late Mr. Davidson, Provincial Treasurer and Provincial Lands Commissioner, endeavored to make selections under this Greenway agreement. He reported as follows:

"During the past season two parties were sent out to select lands under the above agreement, but only a very small area (less than 14,000 acres) was selected. *The greater portion of the grant in which the Inspectors were permitted to work was found to be almost valueless.*"

"The conditions under which selections are to be made from the Canadian Northern land grant are most arbitrary and prejudicial to the interests of the Government of Manitoba, as a careful reading of the agreement and a study of the accompanying map will plainly show. The work of inspection, for the purpose of selecting lands, must commence at the southeastern odd-numbered townships and odd-numbered range and proceed westerly along the southern tier of townships, thence easterly along the third tier, thence westerly along the

fifth tier of townships, and so on northward until the 256,000 acres of land have been selected. *Now, as the greater portion of the land grant in which the Government is allowed to select lands is unsurveyed, the work of inspection is blocked, and cannot be completed until a survey of these townships has been made.* The injustice and injury to the Province lies in the fact that the Government inspectors are held back, because of this restriction, from inspecting lands situated further north in the land grant, which are known to be very much superior in quality, and which are being rapidly disposed of by the Canadian Northern Company."

It will be observed that until a survey took place selections had to stand. Mr. Davidson and Mr. Rogers both went to Ottawa and pleaded for a survey as soon as possible in order to get a title to the acreage named in the agreement. The request was promised favorable consideration, but the years 1902, 1903 and 1904 passed and there was no sign of a single solitary surveyor going out or any evidence that any ever would be sent out.

Thus the asset, if such it could be classed, was a dead one; in fact, it was more of a liability than otherwise. Out of the selections made by Mr. Davidson, when he found he could go no further, only three sections had been sold, and the total sum realized was \$1,376, the interest on the bonds having to be paid in the meantime.

An arrangement was, therefore, made by the present Government whereby all claims would be released on this remote and impossible asset, upon the payment by the railway company to the Province of the sum of \$400,000 with interest thereon.

The settlement was a most beneficial one from the standpoint of the Province. The money received is being, and will be, put into public buildings, and devoted to assisting the municipalities in constructing roads and bridges and other kindred objects. Is this not better than having a most improbable collateral in inferior lands, and which the Dominion Government was determined not to survey, so that the Province might make selections under the Greenway agreement? Nine-tenths of a loaf is better than none at all!

At the session of the Legislature in 1909, the Hon. Mr. Rogers, in replying to certain allegations made by Mr. Norris respecting this Hudson's Bay land grant, made the following explanations. He said: "I fancy it will only take a moment to satisfy the House of the incorrectness of the statements. The honorable gentleman says the Greenway Government bought 256,000 acres of land and the present Government are responsible for its management and sale. I want to say that no honorable gentleman, either inside or outside the House, thinks the Greenway Government purchased 256,000 acres of land or that the



present Government has anything to do with it insofar as ability to control it is concerned. They are not acquainted with the facts, and make statements that are incorrect and cannot be borne out by public record. I am astonished that my honorable friend undertook to deal with it in a completely unreasonable and unjust manner. The Government had a right under an agreement made by the Greenway Government to select the land under certain conditions. There were conditions attached to the agreement, and they were similar to most agreements made by honorable gentlemen opposite. They were not susceptible to being carried out in the interests of the Province. When the Greenway Government made the contract by which they claimed they were to get a total of 256,000 acres of land it was provided that such land, when transferred to the Government of the Province would precede any settlement of the Hudson Bay claim. What happened? When we came into power in 1900, we started to inspect and examine the land with a view to securing an agreement. The land commissioner sent out commissioners; they were gone some time, and when they came back they said they were only able to select 14,000 acres of land, because the land had not been surveyed. Mr. Davidson went to Ottawa to try and get them surveyed, but without effect. We pleaded with the Ministry, but had no satisfaction; we pleaded for a year, but without success, and the land is not surveyed yet. Under the contract it was only possible to survey one particular section in one particular township in one particular range. It would require 56 townships surveyed before it would be possible to get one solitary acre added to the 14,000 acres. If the Province has lost, and they are going to lose, any money in the transaction, the blame rests on the Minister at Ottawa who has refused to give the Province their rights.

"It is something like the usual reasoning of the hon. gentlemen and those who sit round him in dealing with public matters. I want it distinctly understood that the Government never had any Hudson's Bay lands as stated, and that as a result of the treatment received at Ottawa we are unable to secure a title to the land, and had to make the best settlement we possibly could. After the settlement had been made it was apparently easy for persons in the Province to go to Ottawa and get a selection of land, not land that was almost absolutely worthless, but land in Saskatchewan to the west of the Province, and yet the hon. gentleman stands up and says the Government is blameable for any loss that may occur in the transaction. That responsibility rests with the Government at Ottawa, and I stand here to charge the Government at Ottawa for any loss in connection with the transaction. If the hon. gentleman will change his resolution to condemn the Ottawa Government for its treatment of the Province, this side of the House will support him in passing the resolution, but unless he makes this change I must ask the members of the House to refuse to pass the resolution."

### Still a Further Statement

Mr. Rogers made a similar explanation in 1919 in the Legislature as follows:—

#### Hudson Bay Lands

" I would like to say a few words with regard to the Hudson Bay lands. I want the hon. member for Gladstone to know and the House to know and the people of the country to know that the Province of Manitoba never had the Hudson Bay lands, and that it was impossible for us to get them. (Applause.) I will tell you why. The hon. gentleman had read exactly the terms and conditions under which the agreement existed, and I will read it again that it may be understood by the House.

" 20. The company further expressly agrees with the Government that the company will, from and out of any land grant that may be earned in respect of the portion of the line of railway herein agreed to be aided, cause to be assigned or transferred to the Government all the right, title and interest in and right to patents for two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres of land in the Province of Manitoba, which shall be fairly fit for settlement, a portion of such grant to be selected therefrom by the Government by alternate odd-numbered sections in the odd-numbered townships and odd-numbered ranges, commencing at the southeastern odd-numbered township of such land grant, thence westerly along the southern tier of townships, thence easterly along the third tier of townships, and so on northward until the said two hundred and fifty-six thousand acres, fairly fit for settlement, have been selected, but not to include any portion of the original land grant to the company, as scheduled by order-in-council bearing date the sixth day of June, 1892, or any lands sold in the ordinary course of business to intending or actual settlers, and such land grant when transferred to the Government shall be accepted by the Government in satisfaction of any claim which the Government may have against the Winnipeg and Hudson's Bay Railway and Steamship Company, or the Winnipeg Great Northern Railway, or against the property and assets of such companies, or either of them; or shall, at the request of the contractors, assign to the contractors, or to whom they may appoint, the claim and demand of the Province of Manitoba as against the said railway companies or either of them in this clause mentioned and any security held in respect thereof; and it is herein agreed that, as to the part of the company's line beyond the said eighty miles, the guarantee in this contract provided for shall not, if so decided by the Government, come into force until the company have satisfied the Government that by the construction of the line of railway hereby agreed to be aided such land grant shall be earned, and that the company shall be in such a position on said line being built to assign and transfer the same as above mentioned."

#### Could Not Get the Land

" Now, sir, when the land was transferred to the Government we were to have no further claim. The hon. gentleman tells us we only

wrote one letter to Ottawa to try and get the land. He understands, and every hon. gentleman in the House understands, we could not get the land until it was surveyed. We got 14,000 acres of it, all that was surveyed and we could not get any more. Mr. Davidson, then the Provincial Land Commissioner, went to Ottawa and interviewed the Minister of the Interior and pressed our claim, but got no satisfaction. It continued year after year until 1905 and we felt we were frozen out. The Government refused to survey an acre, they were bound to drive us out, and we had no other course open than to settle the liability of claim we had against the company. We could not get the land; they refused to give it to us and did not give it to us. It was a strange coincidence that when the contract was settled with them the gentlemen who got the settlement were able to go to Ottawa, and what were they able to do?"

"They did not say they were willing to take the land up in the northwestern portions of the Province. They said it was no good and was not worth one dollar an acre. Did the hon. gentlemen treat them the same as they treated us for five or six years? No; they said, go to the northwest Provinces of Saskatchewan or Alberta and take the finest land that belongs to Canada and we will give you the 256,000. I know the company got the land and have sold it at from six to eight and ten dollars per acre, and yet we have hon. gentlemen coming here to condemn us when we have suffered from the treatment of their friends at Ottawa."

"It is they that are responsible in the eyes of the people of the Province for forcing the country into the position of not securing the lands we made every effort we could to get and could not do so."

### **Made Honest Endeavor to Get Lands but Failed**

"I want it understood by the people of this country that we made an honest endeavor for five or six years and could not secure the land, and had to make a settlement. We say we never had the Hudson Bay lands and never sold them. Something has been said about the Manitoba and Northwestern lands. I do not think it necessary to continue along that line. It has often been told and we know the records of the friends of the hon. gentlemen opposite when dealing with the matter. They gave away about 160,000 acres first; that was not enough. They gave away \$100,000 worth more in connection with the settlement. They gave away the resources of the Province in a most liberal manner to the railway company. It is true it was just before a general election when probably they had a good reason for doing it at that particular time. I simply point this out to show you the difference of the conduct of the two parties in dealing with an important question."

## THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROVINCIAL LANDS

The lands of the Province are derived from two sources, viz., from the lands taken over respecting certain debentures issued as aid to the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway, and from the swamp lands handed over from time to time, but very infrequently, by the Dominion Government. The policy of the Government has been to dispose of these lands for the best prices obtainable and thus create an increased revenue, so that the people might be further benefited by larger grants and needed public improvements.

The opponents of the Government on the other hand urge that the revenue from the sale of the public lands of the Province should be nursed and set aside for the benefit of those to come after us, years hence; that it should be held in trust to satisfy the debentures of the Province when such shall respectively become due; that the requirements of the present should be left unprovided for; that public necessities should be starved.

The present Government have taken and take direct issue with its opponents with respect to what is the proper course to pursue in the premises, and have acted in a manner in the best interests and requirements of the Province. At the same time due care has been and will be taken to accumulate sufficient annual surpluses with which to fully provide for the liabilities of the Province upon the maturity thereof from time to time.

### THE CONDITION OF PROVINCIAL LANDS ACCOUNT AT CLOSE OF YEAR 1909

#### An Average Price of \$5.48 Per Acre Obtained—A Much Higher Price, Proportionately, Than that Obtained for Valuable School Lands

The receipts of the Provincial Lands Department for the year 1909 totaled the sum of \$515,298.80, made up as follows:—

Land sales . . . . .		\$ 43,383 97
Deferred payments—Principal . . . . .	\$288,284 06	
Deferred payments—Interest . . . . .	166,211 18	454,495 24
		\$454,495 24
Fees—Filing deeds, etc. . . . .		658 79
Hay and wood permits, rents, etc. . . . .		15,508 38
City Properties—		
Deferred payments—Principal . . . . .	\$ 1,144 00	
Deferred payments—Interest . . . . .	75 87	
		\$ 1,219 87
Interest on deposits . . . . .		32 55
		\$515,298 80

### Nearly a Million and a Half Acres Still At the Disposal of the Province

The area disposed of during 1909 amounted to 71,991.16 acres, which realized the sum of \$394,754.73, giving an average of 5.48 per acre, a very satisfactory showing considering the nature of the lands the Department has under its control.

The following statement shows the area still at the disposal of the Province:—

	Acres.
Area unsold in accordance with the annual report of	
1908 . . . . .	1,290,193.43
Portion of 78,312.27 acres mentioned in said report as	
being in process of adjustment . . . . .	74,344.17
Transferred by Dominion Government, 1909 . . . . .	115,922.71
Reverted to Province, 1909 . . . . .	17,243.32
	<hr/>
LESS	
Disposed of during 1909 . . . . .	71,991.16
	<hr/>
Subject to disposition . . . . .	1,425,712.47

### Swamp Lands in Many Cases Sell for More Than Adjacent School Lands

The Hon. Mr. Rogers took occasion at the 1910 session of the Legislature to enlighten the Opposition critics of the land policy of the present Government. He showed conclusively that in many cases higher prices had been obtained for swamp lands than that secured from adjacent school lands, notwithstanding that the former were much inferior in character to the latter. He said:—

“Our opponents sometimes like to make a comparison between the sales of swamp and school lands. It is a favorite argument of the honorable gentlemen when in a small school house in outside districts of the Province. We are prepared and only too willing to place our sales of swamp lands as against their sales of school lands. What do we find? The honorable member for Carillon pointed out the condition that existed in connection with a sale held some time ago by the honorable member for Emerson, where a quantity was put up, and they were unable to sell a portion of the land. On the 11th of November we had a sale at a place called Makinak, and the same gentleman was the auctioneer. At a sale in township 21-15 he sold a school

section there as \$7 per acre; we sold the adjoining section and got \$8 per acre by private sale.

"In township 22-15, he sold the south half of section 11 for \$5, and we sold the adjoining section for \$6. In township 26-15 at the same sale they sold section 29 at \$5.

Mr. NORRIS—When?

Mr. ROGERS—June 11, 1909, and we sold the adjoining half section at \$10 per acre. In the same township they sold section 11 at \$5, and we sold adjoining it at \$7. They sold in township 26-15 west school section 29, at \$5 per acre. We sold a portion of the adjoining section at \$9 per acre, and another portion of the adjoining section at \$30 per acre. And the same township, section 11, they sold at \$5 per acre, while we sold two sections immediately alongside at \$8 per acre. In township 24-16 west, they sold the eastern half of section 11 at \$5 per acre, and we sold the adjoining section at \$6 per acre. These are some comparisons showing how our sales of lands are conducted and the prices realized."

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## Another Sample of How the Ottawa Government Dissipates Western Lands

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### THE SASKATCHEWAN LAND DEAL

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**250,000 Acres of Choice Land Sold by Government For One Dollar an Acre—Eight Dollars to the Settler—Government's Friends Make \$1,750,000 at the Expense of the Working Farmer**

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The Liberal platform of 1893 declared that "the sales of public lands of the Dominion should be to actual settlers only and not to speculators, upon reasonable terms of settlement, and in such area as can be reasonably occupied and cultivated by the settler."

In the early part of 1902 there was a great rush of settlers into the Canadian West. The value of western farm lands was advancing with a rush. Railway companies and land companies were raising their prices. Homesteads easy of access were taken up as fast as they could be found. In 1902 the Canadian Pacific Company sold 1,362,478 acres, or more than four times the quantity sold the year before, receiving a much higher average price. In the Regina district alone the homestead entries increased in that year to 4,158, as against 1,308 the year before. Prairie land which could have been bought a few years earlier for two to five dollars an acre was now held at eight or ten dollars. There was great money to be made in buying land and holding it for an increased price.

### Government Officer Praises This Region

In these circumstances it was important that the land remaining ungranted should be held for the genuine settler, so that speculators and middlemen should not hold up the working farmer who desired to go on the land. At this stage, C. W. Speers, general colonization agent of the Government, wrote to Mr. Sifton, then Minister of the Interior, calling his attention to the land adjacent to the Saskatchewan, Long Lake & Regina Railway, between Lumsden and Dundurn, the former 20 miles and the latter 130 miles north of Regina. The agent entertained a high opinion of this region:

"I have no hesitation," he said, "in stating that a great many very good districts can be found along this line of railway between the points mentioned. I have observed very closely this stretch of coun-

try and am thoroughly convinced that some progressive settlements can be placed along that line that will establish the fact that that country is all right.

"I beg to point out that there is not one bushel of wheat produced within this 115 miles, and I am persuaded that if a few hundred acres of crop were grown about half way between Lumsden and Dundurn, demonstrating the fact that the country was good, that a great deal of this land would rapidly fill up with settlers."

Mr. Speers went on to say that for nine years the Soo line was without any settlers, and yet in one year that country was entirely filled up. He closed by saying:

"I anticipate that some of the country referred to will be settled during the coming summer, and the value of the odd-numbered sections very materially enhanced." (Hansard, 1906, page 4167.)

### **A Concession to Politicians**

No action was taken on this recommendation, though a German-American settlement had been planted in the neighborhood and was already giving signs of prosperity. As Mr. Speers said, other settlers were arranging to locate in the area of which he spoke and there was every prospect that the land would soon be in good demand.

But another thing happened. A group of land speculators, some of them political friends of the Minister( saw a good opportunity. One of these was Mr. A. J. Adamson, then a prominent politician, who had the fortune to be a brother-in-law of Mr. J. J. Turriff, Chief Commissioner of Dominion Lands.

This gentleman and his associates began by buying the land grant of the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake & Saskatchewan Railway Company. After this purchase, the Government generously enlarged by 2,000,000 acres the area of lands out of which the company could make selection. The effect of the change was to allow the new purchasers to go outside of the original boundaries for the whole of their purchase and pick up the best land in sight.

E. B. Osler, M.P., whose firm were agents for the Qu'Appelle & Long Lake Railway Company, declared in the House that neither his firm nor any officer or member of the company had received notice of this enlargement, which was made in August, 1902, three months after the sale of the land to Mr. Adamson's company.

### **250,000 Acres at One Dollar an Acre**

Having accomplished this, the purchasers approached the Government with an offer to buy 250,000 acres originally set aside as free



homesteads for settlers. The outcome was an agreement for the sale of the above area to these land speculators at one dollar an acre, with the privilege of making their selections over nearly one million acres, and five years to complete payments. The purchasers cheerfully agreed to settle in each township twenty settlers on free homesteads not included in their purchase, and twelve more on quarter sections contained in their grant. This settlement undertaking was to the advantage of the investors, as they were able to offer to farmers who would buy from them an additional 160 acres of Government land for nothing. That was the way to make their money out of their own lands.

### **A Great Purchase**

After the deal was completed the purchasers organized the Saskatchewan Valley Land Company, and immediately offered their lands at six to twelve times the price paid. The Order-in-Council confirming the contract was passed on the 24th of May, 1902, three months after the report of Mr. Speers commending this land. In July Mr. Speers wrote again, stating that he had been over the country and was positive that the settlement would be rapid. Mr. Speers said:

"I have always been persuaded that this country was fit for settlement, and I am glad to be able to inform you that at an early date everything will be done that can be done to make this country productive. I review the fact that for some time I have been communicating with you on this stretch of country and in former correspondence have pointed out the necessity of having a portion of it settled."

The purchasing company went through several re-organizations. Persons were taken into the deal who could not conveniently be known at first in connection with it. For example, Mr. Turriff, who was Dominion Lands Agent at the time the deal was made, and is now a member of Parliament, denies that he had any interest in the deal at the beginning, but does not contradict the statement that he was afterwards connected with the purchasing companies.

The larger part of the 250,000 acres was soon sold at from \$6 to \$12 an acre. One large block seems to have been sold to a company at \$6.50 immediately after the purchase. This appears to be the lowest price obtained.

But the limit of Government generosity had not yet been reached. The contract required the company to settle a certain number of people on homestead lands before any of the 250,000 acres could be patented to them. J. G. Turriff, brother-in-law of Mr. Adamson, patented to the purchasers nearly 150,000 acres. Mr. Turriff does not contradict the statement that he became financially interested in the Saskatchewan Company, or some of its subsidiary organizations.

In one of its pamphlets the company made this boast:—

"Our privilege of selection differs from the ordinary railway grant inasmuch as we are not obliged to take any specific number of sections in any one township. We have the privilege of selecting in the district reserved for us any odd-numbered sections in the township, excepting the two school sections. . . . We are not interested in any second class land. . . . Owing to the condition under which we acquire our land we in every case extend to the purchaser the privilege of making his own selection. This privilege cannot be over-estimated, especially to the purchaser of any considerable tract of land."

The advertisement proceeds: "Land can be purchased from our company at \$6 to \$10 an acre, according to location."

"We have secured our land," says the company, "at a price which permits us to sell good land cheaper than any other company in Western Canada."

#### **\$1,750,000 Profit With No Investment**

It was a beautiful part of the arrangement that the company did not need to select or to pay for the 250,000 acres until the land had been sold to the settler, and that then there should be a right to roam over an area of 76 townships. Farms, large or small, could thus be picked out where it was convenient to the settler, and when he had signified his choice, the company could go to the Government and select in lots so small as 160 acres the land thus sold as part of the 250,000 acre grant. The Government received no payment until the speculator had made his profit. For five years this could go on, until the company had sold the whole grant and was in a position to close up the arrangement and make a final payment to the Government. No doubt the average price received by the company for first class land—and it would take no other—is over \$8 an acre, leaving \$7 as net profit, or \$1,750,000 on the whole transaction.

The deal works out in this way:

The Government receives .....	\$ 250,000
The settlers pay .....	2,000,000
Speculators obtain .....	1,750,000

This sale of land was made secretly without public notice.

It was made in violation of the declared policy of the Government.

It was contrary to public interest, which demands that the man who goes on the land should have the benefit of the original low prices.

Moreover, the purchasers were allowed to pay for the land in scrip which had been bought up at a fraction of its par value, so that

the actual amount paid was much less than the \$250,000, probably not half that sum.

They were allowed long credit, so that they did not pay until they sold to the settler. Therefore they required no capital.

### **A Case of Official Mendacity**

Announcing the sale of 1903, the late Minister of the Interior said:

"While I was away the officers of the department made an examination of an area, some 250,000 acres, in what was regarded as an arid and practically useless section. The land was sold at one dollar an acre upon settlement conditions." (Hansard, 1903, page 6772.)

Such is the Minister's account of the same land described by the purchasing company as

"This great stretch of level prairie without a tree or stone to block the plow, together with the magnificent soil, the abundance of the yield and the grade of the product, has made the Saskatchewan Valley the superior of the world as a wheat and flax-growing country."

The same authority speaks of the soil "as a rich, black loam, ten to thirty inches deep, on a chocolate colored clay sub-soil, with water easily obtained."

Not only was the statement of Mr. Sifton opposed to the description of the land given by the purchasers, but it was flatly contradicted by his own officer's report quoted above.

### **A Reform Rejected**

Among the resolutions moved in the House during the session of 1906, covering cases like this, was one proposed by Dr. Roche, M.P., for Marquette, Manitoba. It set forth that:

"The public lands of Canada, situated in the Provinces and Territories west of the great lakes, should be made available for settlement with the least possible delay;

"That to this end all railway companies, corporations and persons now entitled to select any lands earned by way of subsidy should be obliged to complete their selection of such lands within the earliest possible period, and not later than the first day of November, 1906;

"That in arranging for the disposal of the odd-numbered sections not so selected and which will thus be released from all such subsidy claims, provision should be made to preserve them solely for the bona fide settler and to protect them from the exploitation of the speculator;

"That the government should take such administrative measures and introduce into Parliament such legislative enactments as may be necessary fully to carry into effect the terms of this resolution." — (Hansard, 1906, page 899.)

This motion was rejected by a vote of 111 to 58. It was a straight party division, except that Mr. Bourassa, Liberal member for Labelle, voted for the motion. In explaining his vote, Mr. Bourassa said:

"These are a few principles that I preached when in opposition when opposing the Conservative party, to which I adhere. I am ready to lay aside my own judgment and have done so many times in the past, and have supported the Government on some questions that I did not approve. . . . This is one of the few principles of the old Liberal party to which I still adhere, and I am not prepared to vote against a motion simply because it might imply blame upon the Government, when that motion condemns a policy that we have denounced time and time again in the past; and which as a Liberal I am prepared to denounce now." (Hansard, 1906, page 1076.)

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### REGARDING THE SWAMP LANDS — HOW MANITOBA IS TRICKED BY THE OTTAWA GOVERNMENT

The manner in which the swamp lands have been, and are being administered by the Dominion authorities is most discreditable.

At the time of what is known as the "Better terms settlement" of 1884, it was vigorously contended that the Province should be given affairs, and the Province of Manitoba should not bear the loss occasioned by the disposal of the swamp lands. It was then agreed, and afterwards embodied in Acts of Parliament of Canada, that the Province should thereafter be paid yearly, as an indemnity for want of public lands, the sum of one hundred thousand dollars, and that all Crown lands in Manitoba which might be shown to be swamp lands, should be transferred to Manitoba and enure to its benefit and uses. At this time it was estimated that the Province embraced within its area from seven to ten million acres of land of this character, and it was confidently expected that prompt and efficient steps would be instituted to determine what lands came within the meaning and operation of the statutory provision hereinbefore referred to, and that, therefore, the asset would prove a valuable one to the Province. This was in 1885, twenty-five years ago, and what has been the result? But two million acres out of an estimated ten million acres have been transferred to the Province, and at a cost to the Province for inspection charged regularly, with interest, against the already meagre subsidy of the Province, and paid to persons engaged

by the Dominion authorities, and in whose selection the Province is never consulted and has no voice.

Such a method in dealing with these lands by the Dominion authorities, as set forth above, is opposed both to the letter and spirit of the Act of 1885, and, therefore, constitutes such a breach of good faith that the Province has the strongest grounds to complain and protest.

Clearly, full compensation should be given to the Province for all the area of these lands reported by the inspectors as falling to the Province as swamp lands and not handed over. It has been through no fault of the Province that the inspections, contemplated by the Act of 1885, have not proceeded with promptitude and reasonable despatch and that, therefore, many of these lands have otherwise been disposed of. The Federal authorities alone are to blame for this condition of affairs and the Province of Manitoba should not bear the loss occasioned thereby.

To still further accentuate that the Province has strong reasons to complain as to its treatment in the matter referred to, it may be observed that while there is handed over to the Province by the Federal authorities from time to time, but at very infrequent periods, small areas of swamp lands actually reported by the inspectors to be such, the Province is charged with the cost of inspection of the whole area reported by the inspectors as available, whereas a large portion thereof, is appropriated for the purpose of the Dominion.

To demonstrate this peculiar anomaly, up to the present time the Province has paid for the cost of inspecting a million acres and received no equivalent therefor.

Notwithstanding the violation of the plain meaning and intention of the Act of 1885, in the manner hereinbefore indicated, notwithstanding the Province is charged with the cost of selection of thousands of acres of lands appropriated for the purpose of the Dominion, and notwithstanding an expressed agreement to the contrary, the Province is charged five per cent. on all sums expended by the Dominion for swamp lands inspection, from the time of such expenditure until the next subsidy is payable, no matter whether any lands have been handed over to the Province or not.

The foregoing facts have time and again been called to the attention of the Dominion authorities, but they look on with perfect indifference and persist in continuing the policy objected to by Manitoba.

The Grit opponents of the Government say this is right, having endorsed all the acts of omission and commission of the aggregation at Ottawa now prostituting the name of constitutional Government. What do the people of the Province think of such treatment?

It is pointed out that in 1885 it was clearly the intention of the Parliament of Canada to hand over to the Province all lands that

might prove on inspection to be swamp lands: that the work of determining such should be speedily performed and not extend over a quarter of a century, as it has. To accentuate this statement of fact, below is given extracts from 1885 Hansard referring to the matter:—

*Hon. Mr. Bowell*—"I might mention in regard to swamp lands, that an arrangement was made with the Government of Manitoba in 1882, I think, but I am not quite sure of the date, to transfer to the Province certain portions of the swamp lands, conditional upon the Province draining them, it receiving a certain portion of the lands after they were drained, in consideration of the money so expended. After due and full consideration by the members of the Manitoba delegation, and a Committee of the Privy Council, the conclusion at which they arrived, being afterwards confirmed by the Council, it was decided that the same policy should be pursued towards the Province of Manitoba, in respect of swamp lands, as is pursued by the United States Government towards the western states; that was to transfer from the Federal Government to the State Governments all the swamp lands that lie in each particular state. It was believed that the expenditure which would devolve on the Dominion Government in draining these lands and making them fit for sale, would be very large, and it was thought that the Manitoba Government could take the draining of those lands into their own hands, and make them a source of revenue, whereas the probabilities were that the cost of draining by the Dominion Government would absorb to a very great extent the full value of the lands. *For these reasons the Government decided to transfer to the Province all the swamp lands within the borders.*

*"I know that in discussing this question with the delegates we came to this decision, that all the lands which could be shown to be bona fide swamp lands should be transferred, and that would have to be decided by some means hereafter. I must say, further, that under the resolution every precaution will be taken to see that any lands which may be applied for as swamp lands come within the meaning of that designation. I have no doubt that the hon. gentlemen will not object to Manitoba having a very large quantity of land, and that the most liberal construction should be put on this resolution, in order to give that Province what many members of the Opposition are claiming they should have—the control over their own land to as great an extent as possible."*

*Mr. Paterson (Brant)*—"Can hon. gentlemen opposite give us information as to the probable quantity of swamp land that will be covered by the resolution?"

*Mr. McLean*—"No estimate was made by the Manitoba Legislature, nor was any proposed. It was considered those were lands that required to be improved before they were valuable, and that the local Government was in a better position to take charge of the necessary

improvements than the Dominion Government. *It was therefore proposed that whatever might be determined to be swamp lands should be handed over to Manitoba."*

Sir John A. Macdonald—"When the discussion first arose between the Manitoba Government in regard to swamp lands, there was a proposition made that the swamps, which are of very considerable magnitude, not very far distant from Winnipeg, should be drained; that is to say, that the Province of Manitoba undertook to drain those huge swamps, and was to receive half of the reclaimed lands for doing the work, the other half of the reclaimed lands going to the Dominion. That undertaking was not successful. The Manitoba Government spent a good deal of money without achieving much result. Thus the matter stood until the late negotiations were entered upon. Reference was then had to the practice in the United States, and it was found that in the western States, which were formed from territories, the United States Government held the whole of the land and sold it for the advantage of the whole country, and not of the particular territory. But the United States Government are in the habit of handing over lands that were deemed swamp lands, beyond a doubt, to the State, reserving such lands as did not need any expense for reclamation. *We came at last to the conclusion that we would adopt the American system; that we would hand over to Manitoba the lands which were swamp lands, those which had been ascertained to be such by the Dominion Government.* It is impossible to obtain an approximate estimate of the quantity of swamp lands in question, Manitoba now extends far north of the surveyed portion, and it is supposed that the further north you go the more rock and water you strike, and the more swamp. The Government might obtain an approximate idea of what the swamp land is in the surveyed portion of the Province. But I do not think that information would assist us very much. It is quite clear that the Dominion Parliament will not authorize the expenditure of money to drain these swamps, and if so, they will remain swamps or muskegs for all time, no matter whether they are large or small."

The foregoing extracts clearly show that the intention of the Parliament of Canada in 1885 was to hand over to Manitoba ALL the swamp lands in the Province which were of that character at that time, but after waiting for 25 years the Province has only received two million acres out of an estimated area of ten million acres. In the meantime thousands of acres have been appropriated and given away by the Dominion Government to the pecuniary disadvantage of the people of Manitoba.

**When the Government of this Province points out this gross injustice, silence and indifference is the only result.**

## SWAMP LANDS RESOLUTION PASSED AT 1910 SESSION OF LEGISLATURE

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### Case of Province Concretely Put

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"Whereas all the remaining undisposed public lands in the Province are practically of a class known as swamp lands, being two-thirds submerged by water, and to which the Province is entitled under an arrangement made with the Government of Canada in the year 1885;

"Whereas, at the time of the arrangement aforesaid, it was estimated that the amount of such lands as would become available to this Province under such class would be approximately 7,000,000 acres;

"And whereas, up to the present time, only some 2,005,439.96 acres have been set apart and handed over to the Province;

"And whereas, owing to the long and unnecessary delay of twenty-five years in transferring said lands, large portions of what once were swamp lands are being lost to the Province, owing to the increase of settlement and the betterment by municipal conditions and improvements rendering said lands not to be classed as swamp lands;

"And whereas it is desirable that no further delay should take place in transference of the said swamp lands to this Province, and that this House should urge the Government at Ottawa to transfer the aforesaid lands and take into consideration the changes which have taken place since 1885:

"And whereas the settlers near the said swamp lands are being injured by non-drainage thereof, and are pressing for needed improvements;

"Now, therefore, be it resolved, That, in the opinion of this House, the remaining swamp lands should be transferred from the Dominion to the Province forthwith, with a view to the formation of drainage districts, so as to render available an increased acreage for the purpose of agriculture."

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## THE ELEVATOR QUESTION

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It is within the memory of everyone who has followed the trend of public affairs in the Province of Manitoba ever since the time development has increased, constituting the Province a competitor in the growing of grain, that a grievance has existed among the farmers of the Province respecting the price obtained for their grain, and the handling and shipment thereof. Some years ago the Parliament of Canada passed an Act providing that certain facilities should be furnished by the railway companies for the shipment of grain in earlots by means of the loading platform. This, while bettering existing conditions, for a time, was not sufficiently far reaching or effective on account of the large increase in production, rendering it impossible for grain to be transported with dispatch. The farmers were, therefore, of necessity obliged to dispose of their grain to the dealer and put it through privately-owned and operated elevators, at a dictated price, and subject to arbitrary rules and regulations. The grain business of the West was in point of fact controlled by interests antagonistic to the farmers. A grievance doubtless existed in this respect, and upon such being called to the attention of the Government an Act was passed curtailing the powers of the Winnipeg Grain Exchange and providing that all reputable persons should upon application be admitted as members and entitled to certain privileges, and the wishes of the Grain Growers' Association were carried out in other respects, which had the effect of removing the complaints, respecting the powers hitherto enjoyed by the Grain Exchange. It was found, however, after a short time that the elevator grievance to a more or less extent still prevailed to the disadvantage of the farmer, and the Government was asked to establish and maintain an elevator system. This the Government acceded to, and embodied in legislation at the 1910 session of the Legislature. Following is given a copy of the Act, which, it must be admitted, embodies all the substantial features asked for, and which the Government has taken steps to put into active operation and effect. There is no difference of opinion on the question between the farmers as represented by the Grain Growers' Association and the Government. Certain political interests, however, have endeavored to make a political issue out of the principle involved but have hopelessly failed, as they have done before on other public questions on which the Government has stood up for the rights and welfare of the people. The Government has gone as far as it is possible to go, having in view the financial responsibilities involved. It submits its action to an intelligent electorate.

THE ELEVATOR COMMISSION



W. C. GRAHAM



D. W. McCUAIG



F. B. MACLENNAN

**The Grain Elevator Bill**

*[Assented to March 16th, 1910.]*

**H**IS MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of Manitoba, enacts as follows:

1. This Act may be cited as "The Manitoba Grain Elevators Act."

2. The Government of Manitoba shall have power to purchase, lease, construct, maintain and operate grain elevators at any place or places in the Province.

3. The price to be paid by the said Government for any property so purchased may be fixed by agreement between the owners and the commissioners hereinafter referred to; but, if it be not so fixed, it may be determined in the manner and by the proceedings provided by "The Manitoba Expropriation Act," and the said commissioners shall employ valuers to report to them from time to time what would be the reasonable and fair valuation of any such property.

4. In any proceedings under section 3 hereof, for the purpose of determining the said price, the same shall be fixed at the actual value of the said property, having regard to what the same would cost if newly constructed, making due allowance for deterioration and wear and tear and all other proper allowances, but not allowing anything for franchise, good-will or prospective profits.

5. At any time within three months after the said price has been fixed or determined as aforesaid, the said Government may by notice in writing to the said person or corporation withdraw from the said purchase, first paying to the said person or corporation all costs of proceedings under section 3 hereof.

6. After the expiry of the said three months without such withdrawal the said purchase at the price so fixed or

determined shall be deemed to be a contract binding upon both parties, and may be enforced by either party as such; and upon payment or tender to the said person or corporation of the said price by the said Government the said property so purchased shall become vested in His Majesty in the

right of the Province of Manitoba, and the said Government may forthwith enter into possession of the same.

7. The said Government shall have power to sell any of the said grain elevators and property at any time, also to lease the same, or any part thereof, to any municipality in the Province, upon such terms as may be fixed upon by order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council and mutually agreed upon between the parties.

8. Every grain elevator so purchased, leased, constructed or otherwise acquired by the said Government under this Act shall be deemed a public work within the meaning of "The Manitoba Expropriation Act" and "The Manitoba Public Works Act."

9. The said Government shall have power from time to time to issue debentures or stock of the Province of Manitoba, in sums not exceeding one thousand dollars, bearing interest at a rate not exceeding four per cent. per annum half yearly, and payable at any time not exceeding forty years from date, for the purpose of raising funds required for the purposes of this Act, and such debentures or stock may be made payable at any place in the Dominion of Canada or in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, or in the United States of America, and either in sterling money or Canadian currency, and they shall have coupons attached for the payment of the interest half yearly, and such debentures shall be sealed with the great seal of the Province of Manitoba, and shall also be signed by the Provincial Treasurer, but his signature on the coupons may be lithographed.

10. The said Government shall have power from time to time to make such provisions and regulations as may be deemed by it advisable or necessary respecting the maintenance and operation of such elevators, the keeping of accounts, the application of funds and other matters of financial or administrative detail involved in the carrying out of the purposes of this Act.

11. The said Government shall have power to appoint commissioners, not exceeding three, for the purposes of this Act and may fix the salaries to be paid to such commissioners. The said commissioners when appointed shall have sole charge of the employment and dismissal of all employees or operators employed in connection with said elevators and shall have sole charge of the acquisition, construction, operation and maintenance of all said

Manitoba grain elevators and property connected therewith and shall only be removable from their respective offices by order of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council made for cause, and the said Government may, upon the death of the said commissioners or any of them respectively or their resignation or removal from office, and from time to time thereafter, appoint other persons to fill their places, who shall be removable from their respective offices in the same way as the first commissioners so appointed.

(a) The said commissioners shall have full power from time to time to make such provisions and regulations as may be deemed by them advisable or necessary respecting the keeping of accounts, application of funds, control of employees, and other matters involved in carrying out the purposes for which they are appointed, the said rules and regulations to be subject to the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council.

12. Before any commissioner enters upon the execution of his duties as commissioner he shall take and subscribe an oath in the following form:—

I.....swear that I will truly, faithfully and impartially and to the best of my skill and understanding discharge and execute the duties and powers vested in me as one of the elevator commissioners of Manitoba. So help me God.

Which oath shall be administered by a Judge of the Court of Appeal or a Judge of the Court of King's Bench for the Province of Manitoba, and shall be filed of record in the office of the Provincial Secretary.

13. (1) No member of the Legislative Assembly shall be appointed on such commission or hold or be appointed to any office of emolument under the commissioners, or shall be a party to or concerned or interested in any contract or agreement with the commissioners for any purpose whatsoever whereby he may receive any payment of money, advantage or profit from the commissioners.

(2) Any member of the Legislative Assembly who accepts any such office or is a party to, or concerned or interested in any such agreement or contract as aforesaid, shall incur the disqualifications and be subject to the penalties prescribed by sections 12, 13 and 14 of "The Legislative Assembly Act."

14. The commissioners shall by by-law frame a scale of tolls and rates of charges, with power to amend and revise the same from time to time, for the storage or warehousing

of grain and other merchandise in elevators operated by the commissioners, and said tolls, rates or charges shall be as low and reasonable as possible consistent with making due provision for defraying and meeting the expenditure and requirements referred to in this Act, but in no case shall the said charges exceed the charges fixed by "The Manitoba Grain Act."

15. The commissioners shall not afford or give any preference or advantage in tolls, rates or charges or in any respect whatsoever to any person, company, firm or corporation, nor shall they subject any person, company, firm or corporation to any detriment, discrimination or disadvantage in tolls, rates or charges or in any respect whatsoever.

16. The commissioners shall afford all reasonable, proper and equal facilities for the storage of grain in elevators operated by them and for the receiving, forwarding and delivery of grain stored in such elevators.

17. The commissioners may store in elevators operated by them all grain offered for that purpose and may demand and receive such tolls, rates or charges for the same as they shall fix by such by-law or by-laws. All such tolls, rates or charges shall at all times be charged equally to all persons, and after the same rate in respect of such grain, and no reduction or advance in any such tolls, rates or charges shall be made either directly or indirectly in favor of or against any persons, company, firm or corporation using said elevators.

18. It shall be the duty of the commissioners to reserve space in elevators operated by them sufficient for the storage of grain that may be offered for sale on street, and the commissioners may lease all or any of such space upon such terms as to the commissioners shall seem reasonable to any person or persons desiring to purchase such grain. Save as modified by such lease, such lessees shall possess the same rights and be subject to the same regulations as shall belong to or govern an individual shipper.

19. (1) It shall be the duty of the operator in charge of each elevator operated by the commissioners to obtain from each wagon or sleigh load of grain before it has been binned, a sample thereof not less than one pound in weight for each fifty bushels or part of fifty bushels in such load; to place and secure under seal such sample in a suitable receptacle marked for identification, which shall be retained in the

elevator for a period not less than three weeks, and to forward under seal another identified sample of the said grain, not less than three pounds in weight, when requested so to do by the owner of the grain, to the office of the commissioners, where it shall be shown by the commissioners to prospective purchasers. Where a purchaser buys in quantities not less than carload units upon the basis of such sample, the commissioners shall deliver on track to his order the grain represented thereby. It shall be the duty of the commissioners to provide a room suitable for the purpose in which to exhibit said samples.

(2) The operator of an elevator operated by the commissioners shall keep accurate record of the amount and kind of grain loaded into cars from such elevators, on forms and in the manner prescribed by the commissioners.

(3) The commissioners may forward grain stored in elevators operated by them to terminal elevators to be binned with grain of the same grades, and the owner of grain in any elevator operated by the commissioners may have the same forwarded for grading by the Dominion grain inspector.

20. It shall be the duty of the commissioners wherever practicable to equip elevators operated by them with machinery for cleaning grain, and all grain shall be cleaned and binned under the direction of the owner.

21. Neither the said Government nor the said commissioners shall take any steps towards purchasing or leasing or constructing any grain elevator under this Act unless and until a petition asking for the same, signed by at least sixty per cent. of the grain growers contributory to such proposed elevator, is received, which petition shall be in the following form or to the like effect:—

To the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council of the Province of Manitoba :

The undersigned grain growers, operating farms in the vicinity of ..... hereby request that the Government of the Province of Manitoba purchase or lease from ..... the elevator situated at ..... owned by ..... and all property used in connection therewith (or erect a new grain elevator at ..... ) under the powers conferred by "The Manitoba Grain Elevators Act," and in case of elevators to be constructed we pledge ourselves to patronize such elevator so long as sufficient accommodation is provided by Government grain elevator maintained and operated there.

Dated this ..... day of ..... 191...

Signed by the undersigned respectively in the presence of ..... }

Neither the Government nor the said commissioners shall act upon any such petition until they have satisfied them-

selves that the same has been duly signed and executed by the necessary proportion of all grain growers that would or might be contributory to any such proposed elevator when purchased, leased or constructed.

22. In this Act the words "the Government of Manitoba" or "the said Government" shall mean "His Majesty in the right of the Province of Manitoba," and the powers thereby conferred upon the said Government shall be from time to time exercised by the Lieutenant-Governor by order-in-council, and may be from time to time be delegated by order-in-council, in whole or in part, and subject to such limitations, restrictions or regulations as such order or orders, or any subsequent order or orders-in-council, may provide, to the Minister of Public Works or to the said commissioners when commissioners have been appointed under the provisions of section 11 hereof.

23. The provisions of this Act shall have force and effect only in so far as and in relation to matters in respect of which the Legislature of Manitoba has authority to enact the same.

24. This Act shall come into force on the day it is assented to.

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#### Norris' Amendment to Elevator Bill Which Was Negatived

"That this Bill be not now read a Second time, as it takes wider powers than are possessed by this Legislature, but that, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to embody the following principles in an Act to be passed this Session to provide for a system of Government-owned elevators; that such system should be controlled and operated by an independent Commission, satisfactory to and accepted by the Grain Growers of Manitoba; the said Commission should have full power to locate, construct, purchase by valuation (but in such case without any allowance for goodwill or prospective profits), operate, maintain and administer all elevators under such system, with power to appoint or dismiss any employees and to deal with any moneys entrusted to their charge under this Bill; *and said Commissioners shall be irremovable except by a two-thirds vote of the Legislature*; but provided always that all moneys to be borrowed or expended for the purposes of this system shall first receive the express authorization of this Legislature by special Act or by submission and approval in the Estimates of the current year, and that all accounts of the Commission



shall be treated as trust accounts and shall be submitted to the Legislature at the same time as the Public Accounts are, after being duly audited by the Provincial Auditor."

NOTE—All the members of the Opposition voted with machine-like precision for this amendment, embodying, as it does, the extraordinary and unheard-of provision making it practically impossible to supercede any commission or commissioner once appointed.

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**GRAIN GROWERS' SUGGESTION ACCEPTED IN APPOINTMENT OF ELEVATOR COMMISSION—TWO OF THREE MEMBERS NOMINATED BY THEM—THIRD WAS THE PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION**

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**Personnel of the Commission Cannot But Be Satisfactory to the Farmers of the Province**

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That the Roblin Government was desirous of meeting the wishes of the Grain Growers' Association in every way possible, both with reference to the establishment of the Government system of grain elevators, and the appointment of the commission to have charge of the same, is most forcibly shown by the action which has been taken. The only point of difference so far as the elevator bill is concerned lay in the fact that the Grain Growers desired to have the commission "independent"—whatever that term implies—to which the Government could not see its way clear to agree. Many reasons were advanced for the stand taken by the Government on this point, chief of which was that to agree to such a proposal would be violating one of the first principles of constitutional government. To make the commission irresponsible to the Government would mean the handing over of immense sums of money belonging to the people of the Province and allowing the Government to have no voice whatever as to the manner in which it should be expended. In declining to constitute a commission of this character, the Government felt that it would be upheld by the people of the Province, inasmuch as being the custodian of the people's money it would be held strictly accountable for its proper application.

The Opposition in the Legislature held up both hands for the "independent" commission, making it responsible only to the Legislature and its members liable to removal only on a two-thirds vote of that body. Would the taxpayers of the Province have approved of such a course by the Government? The Roblin administration felt

that they would not, and accordingly did not comply with either the demands of the Grain Growers or the wishes of the Opposition in this one respect. But the Government, to show that it was willing to meet the Grain Growers in every possible way, asked that body to submit names of persons whom they considered as fit and capable to act on the commission, giving the Grain Growers the assurance at the same time that if the names suggested were those of men who were thoroughly conversant with the grain elevator business and were certain to give satisfaction to all classes, they would not be ignored. Of the three commissioners appointed two were named by the Grain Growers' Association—F. B. MacLennan and W. C. Graham. Both are undoubtedly well qualified for the position. Both were recommended by the Grain Growers. The third is D. W. McCuaig, one of the leading members of the Grain Growers' Association, and for the past five or six years its president.

Could the farmers of the province wish for anything better in the way of the personnel of the commission, with two of its members recommended by the Grain Growers' Association, and the other the president of the organization that for some years has been carrying on such a vigorous campaign for the betterment of the farmers' position? Could the Government have chosen any other three men who would be more satisfactory to the farmers. The commissioners were appointed regardless of their political leanings—appointed solely on account of their special qualifications for the work they will have to perform. They are practically an independent body, but they will be responsible to the Government direct for the manner in which they handle the funds placed in their care. This the Government insists upon. The farmers of the Province will look upon it in the same light, and consider it nothing more than reasonable and a necessary safeguard.

The most effective reply to the demands of the Grain Growers for the appointment of a commission that would not be responsible to the Government, was made by Hon. Robert Rogers before the Agricultural Committee of the Legislature. Mr. Rogers pointed out that to make the commission of such a character would mean that it would be a body corporate, capable of suing and of being sued, and that it would mean no end of trouble in the courts, whereas if the commission were responsible to the Government it would have the stamp of approval of the Government and would be free from the danger of litigation. In other words, to make the commission "independent" would mean a fat thing for the lawyer and a bill of expense for the farmers, and the Government of Manitoba; that vast sums of money would be spent in the courts, whereas to make the commission responsible to the Government would mean that its workings would be free from these objectionable features. Mr. Rogers also showed how the Government of Manitoba has stood behind the Grain Growers in times past, when they have been involved in law suits fighting for the betterment of their condition, and how it has gone so far as to pay the costs that were

saddled on the Grain Growers' Association. The Government in taking the stand it has in regard to the commission, feels satisfied that every unpartisan and reasonable person in the Province will agree that it acted in the best interests of all concerned.

The Government has fulfilled its pledges in the matter of the elevators both to the Grain Growers and the public at large. There is in the character of the appointments positive assurance that the work of constructing and operating the elevators will be carried forward earnestly and expeditiously with a view to serving the interests of the grain growers of the Province.

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## The Telephone System of Manitoba

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### Brief Statement Showing the Position of the Undertaking, and Furnishing Strong Proof of the Wisdom of the Government In Acquiring Control

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The telephone department in Manitoba during the year 1910 will be the largest that has ever been accomplished by any telephone organization in the space of one year. The history of the telephone business in the Province covers a period of over twenty-five years, during which time the system has grown from three hundred (300) telephone subscribers to twenty-five thousand (25,000) subscribers.

During the year 1910 the number of rural, town and city subscribers to be added will make an increase of 40 per cent. to the above figures, or approximately 10,000 subscribers in one year.

Some idea of the enormous amount of material required for such a tremendous growth may be gathered from the statement that it will take over 1,000 cars of poles, crossarms, wire, cable and other material to provide for the construction of these new Government telephone lines.

The investment for switchboards to handle the new subscribers and also to take care of the increase for 1911 will amount to over half a million dollars.

Two years ago there were only three places in Manitoba that were referred to as important telephone exchanges, viz., Winnipeg, Brandon and Portage la Prairie. All others were either small exchanges of a few subscribers or had no telephone service at all. The progressive policy of the Manitoba Government has accomplished much in the last two years with the result that today there are scores of places in Manitoba with large busy telephone exchanges of hundreds of subscribers.

The farmers of Manitoba today realize the advantages of a telephone service, which completely changes the conditions of living on a farm. From every standpoint its benefits are of great value to them in their business, and especially to their families, deprived as they otherwise would be, of its advantages socially.

Two years of experience in the development of these rural telephone lines has proved to the people of Manitoba that such a service

cannot be looked upon as a profitable field in telephone work, but the Government realize its great benefit to the people and intend to carry out its policy of extending this greatest of all public utilities to every district in the Province, giving the best service that can be given, and at its actual cost. To do this, the advantages of one single system under a well trained organization will be apparent.

With the opening of construction work for 1910, in the rural districts of Manitoba, the Commission have thirty gangs of men at work



**SHERBROOKE ST. EXCHANGE**

erecting poles and wire, and other smaller gangs of men employed on central office switchboards, cable work, and the installation of subscribers' instruments.

The active management of the Government Telephone business of the Province of Manitoba is in the hands of an independent telephone commission, who are free from any political influence.

The organization of this Telephone Commission and its staff is composed entirely of well trained and competent telephone employes, covering all the branches of the commercial, plant and operating departments of telephone work, all working with but one aim, to extend and build up a great system in this Province.

Previous to the inauguration of a Government Telephone System in Manitoba there were a number of small independent exchanges

who were not accorded connection with the long distance lines of the Bell Telephone Company. All of these municipal and other exchanges now have connection with all Government lines and exchanges thereby receiving the benefits of the Government system and organization.

### **The Province Saved a Million Dollars by Purchasing the Bell System**

Much has been said concerning the purchase by the Government of the plant that was owned by the Bell Telephone Company. Today this plant, which was purchased for \$3,300,000, has almost been lost sight of in the greater and more rapid development that has been carried on by the Manitoba Government during the past two years. These two years' experience has also proved that the purchase of the Bell telephone system at such a price has saved to the Province over a million dollars. The debentures of the Province were taken at par at a time when the market value was about 93. As a going concern the telephone business was obtained, having at that time an income of over half a million dollars per annum. The delay that would have been necessary to duplicate the Bell system, the loss of revenue, the loss by duplication of plant, and the price, which is now known to have been less than it could have been duplicated for, all prove that a saving was made of at least one million of dollars to the people of Manitoba.

### **Even the Croakings of Opponents Have Ceased**

At the session of the Legislature in 1908, opponents of the Government criticised the telephone policy of the Government, but at the session which closed in March last, these same aspirants for power, these political will o' the wisps, were as speechless as the proverbial oyster. Their silence on the subject is an eloquent tribute to the foresight and business acumen of the Roblin Government.

### **A Stunning Blow to Critics**

The Grit savers of our country—save the mark!—received both a Roland and an Oliver knockout when exactly the same policy of acquiring control of the Bell Telephone system was adopted and concluded in the two new Provinces to the West, with this difference, however,—a much larger sum was paid relatively for the value received than in the case of Manitoba. These gentlemen, though, are not sufficiently magnanimous to afford the deserving credit to the Roblin Government for having made, as the fact is, a most advantageous deal in the acquisition of the Bell telephone system in this Province. The people, however, are appreciative in this respect, which is the only acclaim that the Government desires.

### **Convenient Pay Stations to Be Installed**

Recognizing the need for Public Telephone service in the poorer districts where private telephones are a luxury, the Government are pursuing a policy of installing Public Pay Stations wherever suitable

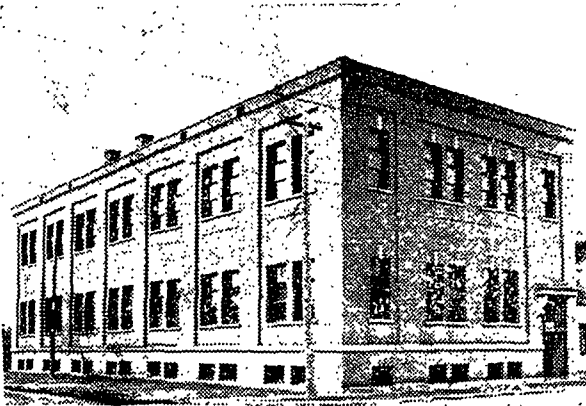
locations can be secured. Under the old order a guaranteed revenue from a responsible person was always demanded before such installation was made.

### **Fostering Interchange of Business**

The Government have always encouraged and fostered interchange of business and connection with competing and other systems, the interests of the subscribers being the first consideration; whereas in a corporation the interests of the shareholders are first considered, and the subduing, not the fostering, of other companies is their business principle.

### **The Promotion of Public Interests is the Government's Chief Concern**

The permanent and future development of the out-of-the-way districts which were absolutely ignored by the Bell Co., has always been



**FT. ROUGE EXCHANGE**

specially considered by the Government whose only natural object is to promote the interests and development of the Province as a whole, rather than the pockets of otherwise disinterested shareholders which was the case with the Bell Co., with the result that sparsely settled districts are now receiving telephone service which would otherwise have been entirely isolated for many years to come.

### **Advantage In Procuring Supplies a Big Asset**

The advantage and freedom in the purchasing of supplies and equipment is a big asset not enjoyed by the Bell Co. and the independence of the Government in this respect enables them to get the best

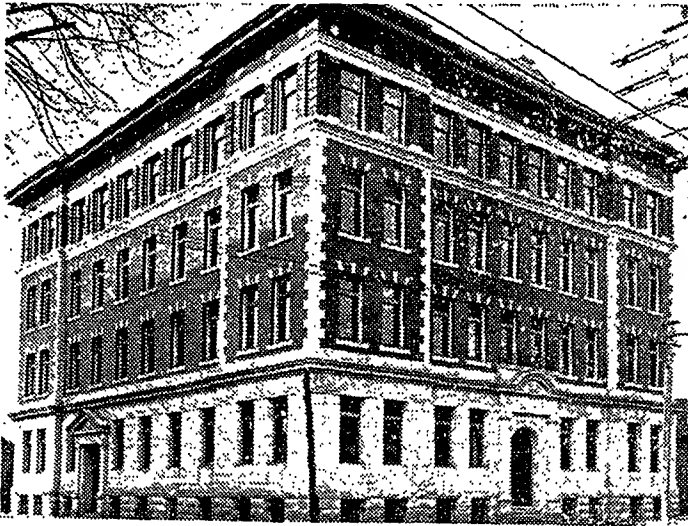
the market has to offer at competitive and, therefore, most economical prices.

### **The Telephone Directory Improved**

The Directory has been improved upon, and a classified business directory added to the ordinary alphabetical list, and its accuracy and usefulness is proved by the constant demands receive from all over the world for copies by commercial houses, etc. It is in this way one of the best and surest advertising mediums the Province possesses.

### **Government Enabled to Take Quicker Advantage of New Ideas**

The Government can take quicker advantage of new ideas in any way affecting telephony, and adopt special policies to suit local con-



**MANITOBA GOVERNMENT TELEPHONE OFFICES, McDERMOT AVE.**

ditions, owing to their centralized control and the compactness of the system, making it comparatively easy to institute changes and evolve new standards, which, owing to the large territory and universal interests affected, could not be accomplished by the Bell Co., whose unwieldiness made it imperative to maintain a fixed uniform standardization of service and equipment as long as possible. Very little consideration for local conditions could therefore be entertained.

### **The Benefits of An Up-to-Date System**

The benefit to the Province by taking over an up-to-date going concern is inestimable, doing away, as it did, with the necessity of the otherwise compulsory dual system and its consequent evils, consisting



of hostile rate cutting with no resultant benefit to the subscribers, who would have to subscribe to both systems, or the competitors. The waste of capital in unnecessary duplication of plant, the time and money wasted in organising and developing a new system during which time, in the face of strongly entrenched competition, it would have been impossible to make the system pay.

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**Statement Showing Interesting Statistics in Connection With the Telephone System of the Province**

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**Development of Telephones in Manitoba from December 31, 1907, to April 30, 1910**

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	Dec. 31, 1907	April 30, 1910	Increase
<b>Exchanges—</b>			
Government .....	68	93	25
Municipal and Connecting Companies....	7	18	11
<b>Exchange Subscribers—</b>			
Government .....	12,519	19,584	7,065
Municipal and Connecting Companies....	624	906	282
<b>Rural Subscribers—</b>			
Government .....	1,523	4,054	2,531
Municipal and Connecting Companies....	419	2,922	2,503
Toll Offices .....	29	68	39
Miles, Long Distance Line.....	3,350	5,332	1,982

	Dec. 31, 1907	April 30, 1910
Total Government Subscribers.....	14,042	23,638
Total Municipal Subscribers .....	1,043	3,828
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>15,085</b>	<b>27,466</b>

Increase since Government took over business—

Government System .....	9,596
Municipal and Connecting Companies .....	2,785
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>12,381</b>

### An Increase of 82 Per Cent. in 28 Months.

#### Statement Showing Excess of Receipts Over Expenditure of Over \$600,000 for Telephone System Since Its Acquisition by the Government

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1908—	
Receipts .....	\$656,486 74
Operating Expenses .....	300,000 00
	\$356,486 74
1909—	
Receipts .....	\$775,655 23
Operating Expenses .....	485,000 00
	\$290,655 23
Surplus .....	647,141 97

In addition to this there was at the end of 1909 uncollected revenue amounting to \$66,041 45.

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#### The Cost of the Telephone System—Opposition Confronted With Cold Facts Regarding the Cost of the Bell Plant—Commissioner Patterson Says Price Paid Was Less Than It Would Cost to Build New One

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The charge was frequently made by the members of the Liberal Opposition that in purchasing the system of the Bell Telephone Company the Government of Manitoba paid an exorbitant price. On more than one occasion both in and out of the House, the Liberals made the statement, on the strength of information furnished, no doubt by some person not conversant with the matter. The most effective answer to the charges of the Opposition was given before the Public Accounts Committee at the last session of the Legislature by Mr. F. C. Paterson, chairman of the Telephone Commission. Mr. Paterson has grown up with the telephone business in Manitoba and consequently is thoroughly versed in every phase of the business. He was examined before the Public Accounts Committee and he stated most emphatically that the price paid for the system was fair—in short, that it could not have been duplicated for that sum. Mr. Paterson was asked if he had had an opportunity to say whether \$3,300,000 was a fair value for the system. He replied in the affirmative, and that he ought to know a little of its value.

Q.—What do you say as to whether \$3,300,000 was a fair value for the system as purchased by the Government?

A.—If you make a comparison between what it would have cost to duplicate a plant, I consider it would be a very fair price.

Q.—Could it have been duplicated for \$3,300,000?

A.—Not and continue in opposition to another concern.

Q.—Do you consider the \$3,300,000 paid a reasonable price?

A.—Yes, I do.

Q.—The system as a whole has been operated at a profit?

A.—Yes.

Q.—The reduction in rates last year commencing from April 1 would be at the rate of how much per annum?

A.—The reduction on the annual revenue made on April 1 amounted to a reduction of a little over \$40,000 at that time, and up to the end of the year the reduction had meant a reduced revenue of \$62,000.

Q.—The reductions of last year would be at the rate of a saving of \$62,000?

A.—Yes, we would have had \$62,000 more of revenue if the reductions had not taken place.

Dr. Armstrong, member for Gladstone, asked Mr. Paterson if, with competition out of the way, the Government could have replaced the Bell system for the sum which was paid for it. To this Mr. Paterson replied "No," further emphasizing the fact that the Opposition were making wild-cat statements when charging that the Government had paid too high a figure for the Bell plant.

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**Actual Figures Showing the Reductions Made in Telephone Rentals as  
At April 30th, 1910.**

One-party business .....	1,872 @	\$ 7,488 00	
One-party residence.....	8,752 @	39,546 00	
Two-party business.....	139 @	389 00	
Two-party residence.....	297 @	1,776 00	
Residence extension, wall.....	114 @	456 00	
Residence extension, desk.....	399 @	2,394 00	
Joint user, business .....	131 @	1,310 00	
Joint user, residence.....	28 @	280 00	
			<hr/>
			\$53,639 00
Rural subscribers .....	4,040 @		16,819 00
			<hr/>
Total reduction .....			\$70,458 00

## HOW GRIT POLITICAL HEROES ARE REWARDED

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Some men are born great, others simply achieve greatness. Heroes, however, are distinctly in a class by themselves. On land and sea, the honor has been won. R. A. E. Leech, inspector of land agencies (whose ostensible residence is known as Brandon, but who nevertheless is as free to go and come as was the dove on Noah's ark), belongs to the terra firma persuasion, having received the distinction in connection with the, "thin red line."

Again it has been demonstrated that the pen is mightier than the sword. Of course Leech should be rewarded and he has been. No base ingratitude has been his lot. The public accounts of the Dominion for 1908 show that he was prevailed upon to accept the sum of \$5,111.54 as a slight recognition for gallantry and heroic conduct. Time even still further garlands his name on the scroll of fame, his annual stipend being increased by one-third. Below are the particulars of what "our hero" received:—

Four months' salary at \$2,000;  
 Eight months' at \$3,000 to March 31st;  
 Board and lodging, \$650.50;  
 Care of office, \$48;  
 Expenses, \$17.70;  
 Fares, \$892.90;  
 Horse hire, \$78;  
 Launch hire, \$8;  
 Postage, \$123.36;  
 P. O. box, \$8;  
 Pullmans, \$267.50;  
 Repairs to typewriters, \$10.00;  
 Telegrams, \$356.90;  
 Telephone, \$31.15;  
 Telephone tolls, \$226.75;  
 Cabs, etc., \$45.35.

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## The Indecent Free Press

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### A Mean Insinuation Respecting Mr. Roblin's Enforced Absence Due to Sickness From the 1910 Legislature

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The Tribune of Winnipeg, on 15th February, 1910, referred to this subject as follows:—

#### "Press Indecency"

The Free Press concludes a somewhat silly editorial paragraph this mornin<sup>g</sup> as follows:

Taken in conjunction with the rumors of the premier's real determination to fly the session and its unpleasantness, the faithful will perhaps read between the lines as intended.

The Tribune has never been accused of being the general defender of Mr. Roblin in his political course, but, when a man is stricken on a bed of sickness, his physician and friends, anxious as to whether or not he will be sufficiently strong to undertake a journey to a health resort, where he hopes to regain bodily strength, it is surely indecent, if not almost brutal, to charge him with a determination "to fly the session and its unpleasantness."

There is such a thing as decent fighting in politics. There should be, at least; but apparently it is unknown in the Free Press school of politics.

In the bitter campaign just closed in Britain there was no speaker, no newspaper, low enough to charge Joseph Chamberlain with cowardice because he did not appear on the public platform or take his place in the House as leader of the Tariff Reform cause. Such a charge could not have been made by the men who love fair play. It is unfortunate that in our country we find so many men and newspapers unwilling to play the game decently.

The condition of Mr. Roblin's health has been a matter of grave concern to himself and his friends. They are thankful for signs of improvement, but under the most favorable circumstances, it will be weeks and possibly months before he can hope to be restored to that strength and vigor, which have been great factors in his political

career. His physician has issued an imperative decree that he must have absolute rest. In his hour of sickness the opponent who charges him with "flying the session and its unpleasantness" is unchivalrous, and worse, untruthful.

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### **HON. COLIN CAMPBELL'S CRUSHING REPLY TO LIBERAL TRADUCERS**

During the session of 1910 a number of allegations were made against the Department of the Attorney-General, that justice was made subservient to political ends. This drew from the Hon. the At-



**HON. COLIN H. CAMPBELL**

torney-General one of the most crushing replies ever heard on the floor of the Chamber. He proved beyond the shadow of a doubt that there was not a tittle of truth in any one of the charges. In opening he said:

"I have listened for several hours to the muck-rakers. There is a place in politics for muck-rakers, and if the hon. gentlemen want to occupy that position, then this side of the house have no objection." Later he remarked: "I do not care for their animosity if I believe in my heart, as I do, that inestablishing what I have done, I have done a good for the country. That is one of the great motives lying behind this attack, because I have thwarted men in wrong doing, because I have said that neither by bribery nor intimidation shall any man in this Province be prevented from discharging the electoral obligation

upon him, but that he should be free from intimidation, free from the destruction of the ballot upon which he marks his vote."

### **The Sale of Liquor Case**

"Having dealt with the motives that lie behind the motion," said Mr. Campbell, "I will now deal with some of the charges that have been brought on this occasion. First, and perhaps the most serious, is that tremendous allegation of the member for Arthur. He told about the sale of some liquors on election day. He was not fair with the House. He did not tell the whole truth. He did not fairly state the matter. It is true there was an election day, but it was not an election day within the meaning of the Act. I have no hesitation in saying that the men who carried on their licenses could not be prosecuted for any infringement on that occasion. It is suggested we were afraid to prosecute. Nothing of the kind. It was simply because we could not prosecute."

### **The Wood Case**

"The member for Dauphin dealt with the Wood case. I will only supplement it with this—that the Wood case was discussed here on a former occasion and to the satisfaction of the House. I wish to say on behalf of the Attorney-General's Department that we are the first Province in Canada to establish that we could successfully abate the bucket shop. What did we do with this man Wood? We drove him from the Province and confiscated his property, and from that day to this there has not been a bucket shop in this Province. I say that we penalized him sufficiently, and he went back to Wisconsin, where his operations are carried on, and that the State of Wisconsin tried to convict him but failed. What they failed to do we in Manitoba accomplished at very little expense."

### **The Guertin Case**

"The member for West Winnipeg brings up the Guertin case, and he thinks it is a terrible offence. I think it cannot reasonably be called anything more than an indiscretion. Guertin was an efficient officer, and he discharged his duties well, and I think when we penalized him to the extent of nine months we did sufficient."

### **The Winkler Case**

Referring to the Winkler case, Mr. Campbell said: "The question of the right of interference of Mr. Winkler in a case of voting is on a par with the Thin Red Line. I held then, and I hold now, that what he did was an unlawful act, an unlawful interference with an elector. I did not act on that matter except at the request of a gentle-

man high in the legal profession, and who thought I ought to act. I refer to J. Stewart Tupper, who said we were warranted in going ahead. I said I wanted to establish the law, to establish whether Mr. Winkler had the right to do what he did on that occasion, and so we presented the indictment to a Grand Jury of this Province, and that Grand Jury returned a true bill against Mr. Winkler. . . . Before the case was tried one of the judges told me that he would have to dismiss it, and that before he had heard a word of evidence. . . . We proceeded without harshness. All we asked was that the facts should be laid before the judge. If in so acting I have been partisan, then I plead guilty to the charge of partisanship, but in so doing I was only trying to establish the right of an elector."

### **Dafoe Libel Case**

Speaking of the allegations of Tobias C. Norris with reference to the Dafoe case, Mr. Campbell said: "The leader of the Opposition has mentioned the Dafoe case. He waxed eloquent on this, but he never said one word why it was down to the present time that the case has never been mentioned in the Free Press. If there is one thing that will go down in history to the discredit of the Liberals it is their action in this case. The writs had been declared for an election, and one morning the Free Press came out with a charge against Dr. McFadden, as read by the member for Lansdowne. As Minister of Public Works, Dr. McFadden exercised his right to lay information. I neither advised nor counselled in the matter, but he laid the information. In making that charge there was no possibility of trying the case before a magistrate. All that the magistrate had to do was to say if a prima facie case had been made out, but with determination worthy of the occasion they published their affidavit. They tried to get an ex parte verdict, but so flimsy was that statement that the electors of the Province had no doubt upon which side they would cast their verdict. They cast it for the Government and for the Hon. Dr. McFadden, and he cast it on a subsequent occasion for him."

### **Lac du Bonnet Case**

The next charge dealt with was the telegram sent from Lac du Bonnet. Mr. Campbell said: "I have told the country on several occasions that I did not send that telegram, and that I did not cause it to be sent. The people believed me . . . That telegram, if sent on behalf of my department was a document belonging to my department. I ask why it was that document was stolen from the magistrate. Who stole it? If they were honest they would have sent that telegram to the department in order that we might find out who sent it, but instead of that they steal it from the magistrate and keep it in the office of the Free Press to be used for political purposes."



### Reviews Ingram Case

Mr. Campbell dwelt at some length on this case and gave a history of the proceedings. Concluding he said: "This case came on for trial, and you would have thought Mr. Ingram and his witnesses would have been falling over one another to get into the witness box. What do you think? When we came to trial, we found a name had been entered on the voters for Brandon list. Then the counsel for the other side said we must prove that it was wilfully entered. All we could do was to show that Ingram did the act. The judge said we had to prove that it was done wilfully. Where, I ask you, has the Attorney-General shown bias or venom in this case?"

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### THE EXTENSION OF MANITOBA'S BOUNDARIES

This is the most vital question, the one of the greatest importance and concern to the people of Manitoba at the present time. It is the crucial point of Manitoba's existence as an important constituent of the Confederation of Canada. The struggle of the Government to obtain for Manitoba justice in the premises and equality of treatment with the other Provinces of the Dominion, is one that should be upheld and supported by the whole people. If Manitoba is ever to take its true position in the nation of Canada, it must be treated with some degree of fairness and justice, not be bludgeoned and harrassed at every possible turn by the Ottawa authorities, as is the present condition of affairs. If the Union of the Provinces is, as originally intended, by the promoters of Confederation, for the purpose of promoting the welfare of the several Provinces as a whole, making Canada one integral unit, it is absolutely essential that no inequality of treatment shall prevail. That such unfair and dissimilarity treatment does exist at the present time there is not the slightest doubt. Manitoba appears to be singled out by the present Ottawa Government for most unfair and ungenerous action, with no hope that it ever will be accorded that justice to which it is fairly entitled. The extension of the boundaries of the Province has been frequently requested. Year after year, for some years past, the Federal authorities have had the requests of this Province before them, and as often have trumped up excuses been forthcoming against granting the reasonable demands in the premises.

One insult after another is handed out, until at the present time the position is that further patience or reasoning is impossible. Every constitutional means, every possible argument and data have been presented and urged to restore a sense of reason of what is fair and honorable to the minds of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Administration, but to no effect. Every attempt has proved futile and utterly abortive. We are thrown a sop as a last resort. We are offered an area of

enlargement dictated and determined at Ottawa without consultation, and the paltry sum of \$10,000 is offered to administer the affairs of a wide domain. No public lands, no interest in timber, mines or minerals, while Ontario and Quebec are to be given the adjoining territory with full control of all of these, while Saskatchewan and Alberta are given full compensation for all the public lands in those Provinces and largely increased revenue in other respects.

Manitoba is squeezed between the two. Every indignity is directed against Manitoba, making the conditions at the present time such that no self-respecting people can longer tolerate with impunity. Incessantly for the past six years every possible endeavor has been made, every pressure by argument has been brought to bear upon the Ottawa Government to act fairly with Manitoba, without the slightest satisfaction or result. The time has now arrived for united action by an appeal beyond that Government by laying our case at the foot of the Throne, and see if British Institutions require us to longer sit silently and forever submit to gross insults and indignities at the hands of the Ottawa authorities.

A history of the boundary question and Manitoba's position and the discussion of the subject will be found in the correspondence between the Premier of this Province and Sir Wilfrid Laurier, following, and, therefore, is not here set out in detail. Every intelligent elector will be enabled to form his own opinion upon the facts presented.

**Area of Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, and of Manitoba,  
Ontario and Quebec, if Boundaries Extended as Arbitrarily  
Determined by Sir Wilfrid Laurier**

		Area
Saskatchewan .....		250,000 square miles
Alberta .....		253,540    “
Manitoba: Present area.....	73,732	
Proposed addition .....	180,000	253,742    “
<hr/>		
Ontario: Present area.....	260,862	
Proposed addition .....	140,000	400,000    “
<hr/>		
Quebec: Present area .....	351,873	
Proposed addition, Ungava	466,000	817,873    “
<hr/>		

**Report of Mr. Rogers and Mr. Campbell, Delegates to Ottawa in 1909  
on Question of Extension of Manitoba's Boundaries**

The report of the delegates to the conference with Sir Wilfrid Laurier in March, 1909, in the effort to get a settlement of the boundary question, shows most clearly that in fixing the new territory to be

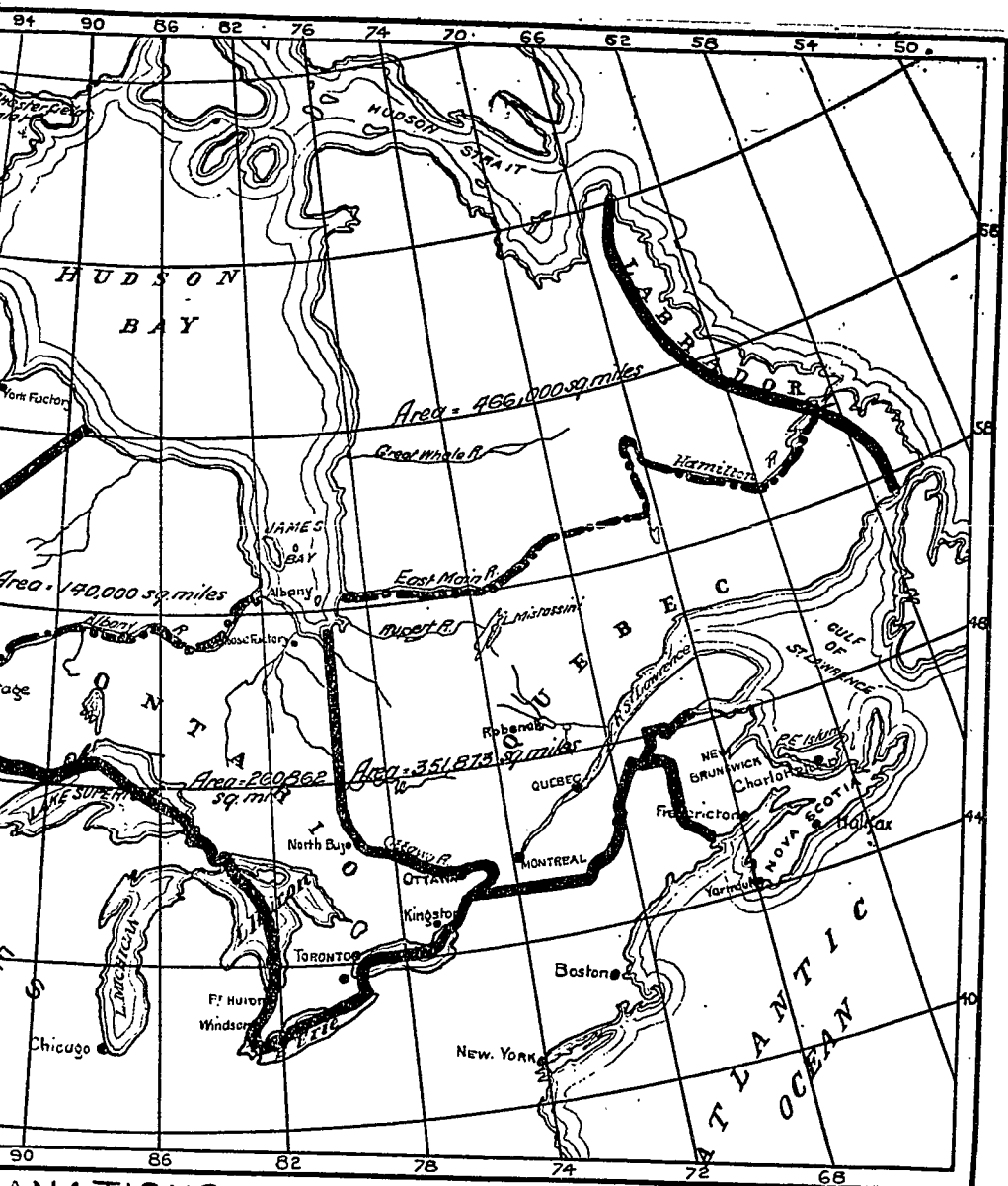
# UNJUST TREATMENT OF MANITOBA BY THE OTTAWA



## EXPLANATIONS.

Province	Area (sq. mi.)	Subsidy in lieu of Lands	
Alberta	253,540	\$375,000 rising to \$1,125,000.	
Saskatchewan	250,650	do.	
Manitoba	73,732	\$100,000 - no increase.	
Province	Present area	Proposed area (sq. mi.)	Terms offered by Darn.
Quebec	351,783 sq. mi.	817,873	Ownership of all Lands, Fr.
Ontario	260,862	400,862	do.
Manitoba	73,732	253,732	\$10,000 per annum.

# MANITOBA BY THE OTTAWA GOVERNMENT



ANATIONS.

lands	
25,000.	
sq. mi)	Terms offered by Dominion Government to the Provinces.
	Ownership of all Lands, Timber, Minerals & Fisheries.
	do.
	\$10,000 per annum.

added to Manitoba Sir Wilfrid had suggested ten thousand dollars a year as the amount of increased subsidy. The Prime Minister of Canada has endeavored to lead the people of Manitoba to believe that he did not offer such an amount, but the official report of the conference proves that such was the case. The report states:

To His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council:

We, the undersigned, appointed to represent the executive of the Province of Manitoba at the conference with the Federal Government report as follows:

Pursuant to an appointment made by the Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, we met in conference at his office on Friday, the 12th day of March, 1909, Hon. W. S. Fielding being also present, representing the Federal Government.

Sir Wilfrid suggested that the first thing necessary for us to consider would be the resolution of the House of Commons in respect to the allocation of boundaries. We urged the position taken by the Government and by the Legislative Assembly of this Province, pointing out that this allocation was depriving Manitoba of a large territory which had already been given to us by an act of parliament of Canada passed in 1881, and afterwards confirmed by the judicial committee of the Privy Council, and that it was not as large as the Government and the Legislative Assembly of this Province thought fair and equitable.

Sir Wilfrid then stated that he could not and would not make any change in this resolution of the House of Commons, delimiting the area to be given to us, in view of the fact that it was an arrangement made between the Liberal members in the House of Commons from Manitoba and himself before being introduced into the House of Commons, and was, therefore, unchangeable, nor would he discuss the merits of a larger area, as urged by us.

### **Agreed on Territory**

At this point, it being one o'clock, Sir Wilfrid proposed that we adjourn until the 16th, in order that we might consider this first essential of the conference, viz., the settlement of the territory to be added.

On Tuesday, the 16th of March, Sir Wilfrid, being indisposed the conference was further postponed and it was not resumed until the 19th.

On re-assembling on that date, your delegates, believing that the refusal to accept the boundaries as so laid down by the resolution of the Parliament of Canada, might afford some reason for further delay

in the settlement of the matter under consideration, accepted the area so suggested by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the hope that by so doing we would have removed every obstacle that we considered could possibly be raised against the settlement of the whole question.

The allocation of the territory thus being disposed of, we proceeded to discuss the financial terms that ought to be given this Province. We presented the memorandum of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which in a word was to the effect that we simply asked for a position of equality in respect to financial terms with our sister provinces to the west—the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

### **Refused Equality**

To this Sir Wilfrid most strenuously objected, claiming that we were not entitled to similar treatment. We then pointed out to him that inasmuch as he had determined the territory and offered the same by resolution, it was incumbent on him to suggest the financial terms, and we pressed him to name what he considered would be adequate compensation and proper financial terms, when he suggested the amount of ten thousand dollars a year, which amount, of course, we regarded as particularly absurd. We strongly urged upon him to give us some reasonably definite statement that we could submit to the Government and the Legislature of this Province for their rejection or approval, but he made no other suggestions than the one indicated above.

The discussion continued and we then made the alternative offer of accepting equal treatment with Ontario and Quebec along the lines of ownership of lands, timber, ore, etc., in the territory to be added, and a like ownership of the undisposed crown lands in Manitoba that we might have equality of treatment with Ontario and Quebec in this respect, so that if it was more desirable from the Federal point of view to give us equality of position with Ontario and Quebec we would agree to recommend the same for acceptance to the executive of the Province, and through them to the Legislative Assembly.

The conference then adjourned, to meet again on March 23, Sir Wilfrid and Hon. Sydney Fisher representing the Federal Government. No further progress was made, Sir Wilfrid still refusing to consider the proposition of equality of treatment either with Saskatchewan and Alberta or Ontario and Quebec, so set out, nor could we obtain from him any further statement as to the financial allowance he would make to the Province, on the addition of the territory.

Sir Wilfrid then informed us that he considered there was no object to be gained by further continuing our conference.

(Signed) R. ROGERS,  
C. H. CAMPBELL.

Dated at Winnipeg, April 14, 1909.

**The Official Correspondence on the Boundary Question—Sir Wilfrid  
Professes Willingness to Meet the Province In a Spirit of  
Fairness, But His Actions Indicate the Reverse**

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The following is the official correspondence which passed between Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Hon. R. P. Roblin with reference to the extension of the Manitoba boundaries:

**Sir Wilfrid's Letter**

OTTAWA, February 26, 1909.

Dear Mr. Roblin:—

I have the honor to enclose the draft of a bill for the extension of the boundaries of the Province of Manitoba. This bill is on the line of the resolutions adopted by the House of Commons at its last session. The amount of allowance to be paid to the Province in lieu of lands, has been left in blank. According to the aforesaid resolution of the House of Commons, this amount should be fixed by negotiation between the Dominion Government and the Government of the Province.

We will be happy to confer with you at any time that may be convenient to yourself and to your Government.

Yours respectfully,

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

The Hon. R. P. Roblin,  
Prime Minister's Office, Winnipeg.

**Draft Bill**

Following is a copy of the Draft Bill:

An Act to provide for an increase of the limits of the Province of Manitoba.

Whereas a petition has been presented to the House of Commons on behalf of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba, praying amongst other things for an extension of the boundaries of that Province northward and eastward and for an additional subsidy to the Province in lieu of the ownership of the public lands in the territory to be added to the Province by such extension, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of such petition to the extent and in the manner provided in the enactments hereinafter contained; therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

### Boundaries of Province

1. Upon the legislature of the Province of Manitoba consenting thereto, the limits of the said Province shall be increased so that the northern boundary of the Province shall be the sixtieth parallel of north latitude; the western boundary shall be the present eastern boundary of the Province of Saskatchewan; the eastern boundary shall be the present eastern boundary of the Province to the northeast corner thereof, thence in a straight line to the most easterly point of Island Lake, and thence in a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson Bay, thence following the said shore line to its intersection with the sixtieth parallel.

2. And whereas in accordance with the provisions of the act establishing the Province of Manitoba the ungranted lands of the crown in the territory so to be added to the said Province will continue to be administered by the government of Canada for the purposes of Canada and the Province will not have such lands as a source of revenue, it is further enacted that there shall be paid by Canada to the Province an increased allowance by money payment to an amount of

3. This Act shall come into force upon a date to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor-in-Council.

### Arrangement for Conference

WINNIPEG, March 1, 1909.

My Dear Sir Wilfrid:—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo with enclosure as stated. I have read the bill, and, as I presume you would expect, am disappointed. The preamble in the bill only recites one of our requests, viz.: subsidy in lieu of lands, where our petition also asks for a readjustment of subsidy or capital account; but which, I presume, can be dealt with in the conference.

Our legislature has unanimously passed a resolution authorizing the House of Commons and the Senate of Canada to be memorialized along these lines. I presume the memorial will reach you in a day or two, if not already in your hands. In the meantime I enclose you a copy of the resolution on which the memorial is founded.

I accept the invitation that you have extended by your letter to the members of my government to a conference regarding the terms upon which the said extension of boundaries is to be made.



As your parliament is in session, I can understand that your time is considerably taken up. I therefore will ask you to be good enough

to name the day or days that you can give for such conference and in that way avoid the unnecessary and tedious delay of the representatives of Manitoba at Ottawa.

You will therefore be good enough to name the day or the days and advise me.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) R. P. ROBLIN.

Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Ottawa, Ont.

**Telegram from Sir Wilfrid**

OTTAWA, Ont., March 7th, 1909.

Hon. R. P. Roblin,  
Winnipeg.

Answering your letter, would be obliged if you personally could come here for conference Friday next, 12th instant, in the hope that final settlement may be reached during present session of our Parliament and your Legislature.

WILFRID LAURIER.

**Premier Roblin's Reply**

WINNIPEG, March 8th, 1909.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier,  
Ottawa.

Our representatives will reach Ottawa on Friday morning, as requested to confer with your government regarding Manitoba boundaries.

R. P. ROBLIN.

WINNIPEG, March 8th, 1909.

On the above date a private and personal letter was written by Mr. Roblin to Sir Wilfrid Laurier in which he explained in detail that owing to illness it would be impossible for him to personally attend the conference, and that the Province would be represented by Messrs. Rogers and Campbell on the date specified.

**Letter of Premier**

WINNIPEG, November 19th, 1909.

Rightt Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., First Minister of Canada, Ottawa.

My Dear Sir Wilfrid:—

My attention was called to the press dispatches in the morning papers, reporting your remarks in reply to an enquiry from Dr. Roche, member for Marquette, regarding extension of the boundaries of Manitoba.

I am disposed to think that you are misquoted, as the dispatch says as follows:

“On February 26th, last, the prime minister sent to the government of Manitoba for their consideration a bill to increase the boundaries of Manitoba as outlined in the said resolution, and until the government and legislature in Manitoba have signified their acceptance of these boundaries and until the Dominion government and Provincial Government had come to an understanding as to the financial conditions consequent thereon, the government has no authority to introduce any legislation to give effect to the above resolution.”

If you are corectly reported, you must have forgotten that representatives from the Province, consisting of Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, waited on you at your request as stated and agreed to the boundary extensions as proposed by your Government.

**Offer of \$10,000**

As to the financial consideration, you intimated, according to their report, that \$10,000 would be adequate for the additional responsibilities assumed by said extension of boundaries.

Permit me to recall to your attention that what we ask for in so far as financial consideration is concerned is embodied in our memorial of 1908, in which we ask, the area now having been agreed to for equality in finances with our sister Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

We cannot accept (and I do not think you could have been serious when you suggested it) \$10,000 as compared to what our claim is based upon—equality with Saskatchewan and Alberta.

You further say that you cannot take any action until an agreement is reached between the Government of Canada and the Govern-

ment of Manitoba. In this you surely are misquoted, because you cannot be unaware of chapter 12 of the Revised Statutes of Manitoba, Vol. 1, which reads as follows:

### **Further Enlargement**

(Sec. 4.) "The legislature of Manitoba agrees and consents that the bounds of the Province may be increased and enlarged to such an extent as shall be enacted by the Parliament of Canada, and no such terms and conditions as to the effect of such increase of territory with regard to an increase of subsidy granted to the said Province and with regard to other purposes and subjects as may be provided by the said parliament of Canada:

"Provided always that such increase of territory shall not take effect until such terms and conditions have been approved by the Legislature of Manitoba.'

From this, therefore, you will please note that special provision has been made by the Province of Manitoba, enabling the parliament of Canada to enlarge the boundaries upon any terms and conditions that in their wisdom may appear just and proper; with the proviso that it shall not go into effect until it has been approved by the Legislature of Manitoba. Therefore, you will see that you are at liberty to pass any bill with any terms and conditions that you choose and then it will be for the legislature of this Province to decide whether it will be accepted or otherwise.

If you are correctly reported, I would suggest that you correct the statement: because I presume the members from the other Provinces who have not studied the question are not familiar with the Statute (Chapter 12, Consolidated Statutes of Manitoba) which provides for parliament to make any extension of boundaries upon any terms and conditions they choose, subject to the approval of the Legislature of the Province.

I think it well that the law and the facts should be placed fairly before parliament and then there can be no ground for complaint from any of the parties to the negotiations.

With assurances of my personal regards.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) R. P. ROBLIN,

### **Sir Wilfrid's Reply**

OTTAWA, Nov. 30, 1909.

Dear Mr. Roblin:—

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th instant.

I am surprised that you should think that the answer which I gave to the enquiry of Dr. Roche was not correctly transmitted in the press

despatches. The report was quite accurate and indeed the existing condition of things did not admit of any other answer.

You assert that we have sufficient authority to legislate Chapter XII. of the Revised Statutes of Manitoba, wherein it is enacted "that the Legislature of Manitoba agrees and consents that the bounds of the Province may be increased and enlarged to such an extent as shall be enacted by the Parliament of Canada, and on such terms and conditions as to the effect of such increase of territory with regard to an increase of subsidy granted to the said Province and with regard to other purposes and subjects as may be provided by the said Parliament of Canada."

The authority would have been quite sufficient for immediate action to be taken, if your statute had stopped there, but the enactment is nullified by the provision which immediately follows, "that such increase of territory shall not take effect until such terms and conditions have been approved by the Legislature of Manitoba."

In other words, you tell us that we may ask Parliament to legislate, but reserve to yourselves the right to reject such legislation.

I have only to observe that the above-mentioned statute does not give us any power to deal with the question that we had not before, and that it does not by a single step advance the solution.

I have further to observe that it cannot be seriously contemplated to ask parliament to enact legislation which would not be final, and which might be thrown aside as unsatisfactory by the Province of Manitoba.

### **Must Come to Understanding**

Everybody who will dispassionately review the situation must agree that, as I stated in answer to the enquiry of Doctor Roche, we are not in a position to act until the Dominion Government and the Provincial Government have come to an understanding.

In one respect your letter is quite satisfactory. You therein assert that at our conference with Messrs. Rogers and Campbell "they agreed to the boundary extensions as proposed" by us. My colleagues and I had not understood that they had so asserted. We are glad to learn that such indeed was their intention. This point may therefore be now considered as settled.

There remains to agree upon the financial conditions, and as we are ready as we have always been to discuss those terms within the lines of the resolution of the House of Commons. As to the report of Messrs. Rogers and Campbell that on this question I intimated that

\$10,000 would be adequate for the responsibilities assumed in consequence of the extension of your boundaries, I hope I will not be taxed with discourtesy if I do not think the report can have been made seriously.

Believe me, dear Mr. Roblin,

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

The Hon. R. P. Roblin.

Premier's Office.

Winnipeg. Man.

**Letter to Sir Wilfrid from Mr. Roblin**

WINNIPEG, December 9, 1909.

My Dear Sir Wilfrid:—

I returned this morning from a trip to Toronto and found your favor of the 30th ultimo on my desk. I have read the same very carefully and hasten to reply.

I shall not attempt to conceal my astonishment at the position you take in it as well as your understanding of the conference held between yourself and Mr. Fielding, representing the Federal government, and Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, representing the Government of this Province, regarding the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba.

The ministers from this province made an official report of the conference to the Executive Council under date of April 14th, 1909, in which they advised that they had accepted the delimitation of boundaries as proposed by your resolution in the Commons, although satisfied that both in law and equity we were entitled to what the Legislature of this Province had set out in its memorial.

They further say in said report that you only offered \$10,000 as financial consideration for the lands, timber, minerals, etc., covered by such extension. Your intimation that you did not so understand it appears extraordinary to me in view not only of the official report aforementioned but the newspaper announcements made at that time. The Toronto Globe, of March 20th, contained a statement which appears to me to be an authoritative and inspired one from your point of view. (I may say that every other newspaper in Canada that made any reference to the matter, published a similar report.)

### What Globe Said

The Globe article reads as follows:

OTTAWA, March 19th—Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. Colin Campbell, who have been in the capital for the past week to press the

claims of Manitoba in connection with the proposed extension of the Provincial boundaries, had an interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier to-day, who had sufficiently recovered from his illness of last week to again be at his office. The proposed terms of the Dominion Government's bill to extend the boundaries were discussed. In respect to the question of the division of territory in the district of Keewatin between the Provinces of Ontario and Manitoba, the Manitoba ministers stated that they would accept under protest the boundary line as defined by the resolution of last session. It was pointed out by Sir Wilfrid that this allocation of the territory in question had been considered as satisfactory by the Manitoba members last session, and to give Manitoba any greater proposition of the territory to be divided would certainly be resisted by Ontario. With respect, therefore to the territorial division the Manitoba Government is now willing to abide by the terms of the resolution.

"The chief issue now is as to the financial terms, and the Roblin ministry is evidently holding out for the full measure of the demand made for the additional cash subsidy, similar to that given to Saskatchewan and Alberta, in lieu of the withholding of the Dominion lands in these provinces."

I regret that your recollection of the matter is different from the facts as reported officially and in the public press at that time. Also permit me to say that your recollection of the financial matters discussed is equally at variance with the published facts and the report made by Messrs. Rogers and Campbell to the Executive Council in April last.

Their statement was that you offered \$10,000, which they positively declined to entertain, but pressed for an offer which they would submit as an alternative to the legislature for their demand of equality with Alberta and Saskatchewan. You declined, so they report, to amend your original offer of \$10,000 and when they suggested placing Manitoba in the same position as Ontario in relation to public lands, you also declined to consider that.

"A moment ago I used the words "authoritative and inspired" for the reason that Messrs. Rogers and Campbell informed me that Senator Jaffray was seated in your secretary's room when they arrived for the conference of the 23rd of March and remained there until the

conference was concluded, when he immediately entered your office after Messrs. Rogers and Campbell withdrew. The next morning, the 24th, the *Globe*, owned by the said senator, contained the following, and which agrees absolutely with the official report of Messrs. Rogers and Campbell:

(Special Despatch to the *Globe*.)

“OTTAWA, March 23rd—The Manitoba ministers, Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, had another interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier today, relative to the Province’s demands for better financial terms in connection with the proposed extension of the Provincial boundaries. **SIR WILFRID SAID THE GOVERNMENT COULD NOT AGREE TO MANITOBA’S REQUEST FOR AN EXTRA CASH SUBSIDY SIMILAR TO THAT GIVEN ALBERTA AND SASKATCHEWAN, AND THAT THE BARGAIN MADE WHEN MANITOBA ENTERED CONFEDERATION, WITH REFERENCE TO THE OWNERSHIP OF THE CROWN LANDS, SHOULD NOT NOW BE REVISED.** Manitoba, Sir Wilfrid maintained, could not, after the lapse of so many years, be considered as being on the same footing as the new provinces just starting in to administer vast territories with all the incidental expense of organization, to maintain law and order, build roads, etc. But in lieu of granting Manitoba the ownership of the crown lands in the territory to be annexed to the Province, he said the government was willing to allow an annual cash subsidy sufficient to cover the cost of administration of the new territory. At present the enforcement of law and order in the portion of Keewatin to be allocated to Manitoba costs only about \$1,500 per year. **IT IS UNDERSTOOD THE DOMINION GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO MAKE AN ANNUAL GRANT OF \$10,000 OR ANY REASONABLE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO COVER ALL THE EXPENSE TO THE PROVINCE IN THIS CONNECTION.** The Manitoba ministers are, however, still dissatisfied with the government’s terms and are holding out for the full measure of their demands for an annual cash subsidy as set forth in the memorial presented to the Federal Government last year. They are evidently desirous of keeping their “grievance” for campaign purposes when the Roblin government next appeals to the electors.

“In view of the refusal of Manitoba to accept the terms offered by the government, it is practically certain that there will be no bill brought down this session to extend the Provincial boundaries.

“Hon. Messrs. Rogers and Campbell left tonight for Winnipeg.”

#### No Offer to Submit

I can understand how in the multitude of cares incident to your office, details such as these could have escaped you; but presume that

your mind, freshened with these records, will enable you to recall all the circumstances and facts as they occurred.

However, be that as it may, the fact remains that we have received nothing that we can submit to the Legislature in the way of financial terms. The power and authority to initiate is vested in you and the Commons.

The Legislature asked in their memorial for certain area and certain terms; you said "no" to our area but moved a resolution outlining certain other boundaries. We have accepted your alternative in boundaries, subject to legislative approval, and now ask you to bring a resolution regarding terms, to the Commons on the same authority as you did the one regarding area.

We respectfully press for this for the reason that the legislature of this Province meets in a few weeks and I desire in the public interest to submit to it a complete proposition. There is no reason, so far as I know, why you should not do this and thus place the responsibility of accepting or rejecting the proposition on the Legislature which is the final arbiter in the matter. You assumed the responsibility for determining the area; I assume you will have no hesitation in taking similar action respecting the financial terms.

I think you will agree with me, the Province of Manitoba is suffering from the delay and therefore it is in the public interest desirable that a complete, final and satisfactory conclusion be reached not later than the approaching session of the Provincial Legislature.

In conclusion, allow me to summarize as follows: Manitoba has stated what she desires both as to area and terms. You have offered us an alternative of area, which was accepted by our delegates; but nothing (I consider \$10,000 nothing) as to terms. We respectfully ask you to accede to our proposals or make an alternative offer. I shall await your action with considerable anxiety.

With assurances of my personal regards and wishing you the compliments of the season.

Yours very respectfully,

(Signed) R. P. ROBLIN.

Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Premier of Canada,  
Ottawa.

#### **Re-open Negotiations**

OTTAWA, December 27, 1909.

Dear Mr. Roblin:—

In reply to yours of the 9th instant, I have only to observe that I persist in believing that the report that we offered at a conference



with Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, \$10,000 for the financial terms to be granted to Manitoba, cannot be taken seriously.

You will pardon me if I will not take part in a discussion of the inference which you desire to be drawn from the fact that Senator Jaffray was in my office when Mr. Rogers and Mr. Campbell came to the conference and was still there after the conference was over. The suggestion that there was a breach of confidence somewhere is one that might be averted between honorable men, and, moreover, if the inference is to be drawn, it might be placed on other shoulders, for if you look at the newspapers at the same time as "The Globe" you will find that the item was in most of the eastern papers.

You suggest that we bring in a resolution in the House of Commons fixing such financial terms as to us may seem advisable, leaving them to be afterwards accepted or rejected by the Legislature of Manitoba. The same suggestion was made by you in your previous communication. I still believe that in my answer I conclusively showed that such a course would be unwise and impracticable.

I have only to add that we are ready to re-open negotiations with the full assurance on our part that we are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit.

With my best wishes for the coming year, believe me, dear Mr. Roblin, yours very sincerely.

(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

Hon. R. P. Roblin, Premier's office, Winnipeg, Man.

#### Reply of Mr. Roblin

WINNIPEG, January 8, 1910.

My Dear Sir Wilfrid:—

I have yours of December 27th, and am indeed pleased to note your expression of assurance that you are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit. This being the case, there should be no difficulty in arriving at an immediate final settlement.

If you will refer to the resolutions of our Legislature, which you have in your possession, I cannot help feeling that you yourself will agree that Manitoba is not asking for anything but that which is fair and just; for certainly if we did not think our claim to be such, we would not be making it.

In regard to our claim, we will be entirely satisfied whether you elect to give us a position of equality under the terms and conditions

that govern your treatment of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west or of Ontario to the east.

I cannot see why you should hesitate to name such terms and conditions by resolution of your parliament. This would only be following the same form which you adopted in the case of allocating our boundaries. You have our proposition approved by resolution of our Legislature; now then, if this is not satisfactory to you, let us have your alternative proposition, when I will at once submit same to our Legislature which meets about the first of February.

And let me assure you that I will sincerely appreciate your careful consideration of our proposition and with such consideration I am hopeful that you will not suggest any terms that will not mean a position of equality for Manitoba with her sister provinces.

Believe me, my dear Sir Wilfrid, I am, yours very sincerely.

(Signed) R. P. ROBLIN.

Rt. Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, G.C.M.G., Premier of Canada, Ottawa.

NOTE—No reply has ever been received up to the present from Sir Wilfrid Laurier to the last communication given above addressed to him by Mr. Roblin.

#### **Mr. Norris' Meaningless Boundary Resolution at Session of 1910**

Whereas Hon. Robert Rogers and Hon. Colin Campbell, in a report to the Executive bearing date April 4th, 1909, which has been submitted to this House, declare that they, acting on behalf of the Province at the conference held with Sir Wilfrid Laurier in March, 1909, accepted the territory to be added to this Province as delimited in the resolution adopted by the Dominion House of Commons on July 13, 1908, in these terms:—

“The northern boundary to be the sixtieth parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the present eastern boundary line of the Province of Saskatchewan to the said sixtieth parallel; the eastern boundary to be the present eastern boundary so far north as the north-east corner of the Province; thence on a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson Bay;”

And whereas it is desirable that this territory should be added to the Province of Manitoba without delay,

Therefore be it resolved, That this Legislature accepts the territory thus described in the resolution of the House of Commons of July

13, 1908, and requests the Dominion Parliament to enact such legislation at the current session as may be necessary thus to enlarge the boundaries of Manitoba, such enlargement to be without prejudice to Manitoba's claim for such re-adjustment of its financial arrangements with the Dominion as shall equip it suitably to meet and discharge the obligations and requirements of the enlarged Province;

And, whereas, in a letter to the Hon. R. P. Roblin, Prime Minister of this Province, under date of December 27, 1909, Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared, "We are ready to re-open negotiations with the full assurance on our part that we are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit,"

Therefore let it be resolved, That the claims of this Province for a re-adjustment of its financial arrangement with the Dominion Government by a committee of Members of this House to be appointed by this Legislature.

#### **Mr. Rogers' Amendment**

To this motion M. Rogers moved an amendment as follows:—

That all the words after "Whereas" in the first line be struck out and the following substituted therefore:—

By an Act of the Parliament of Canada passed in the year 1881, and under the decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, a large tract or area of territory lying to the east of the present eastern boundary of Manitoba and north of the Albany River, comprising approximately 41,000 square miles, was determined as belonging to, and as a portion of, the Province of Manitoba;

And whereas, in the various conferences held between the Federal authorities and representatives of this Province, and in the several memorials presented to the Parliament of Canada regarding the claims of the Province for further extension of boundaries, this position has always been maintained;

And whereas the Parliament of Canada, on the thirteenth day of July, 1908, passed a resolution setting forth the territory which the said Parliament was willing to grant or offer to the Province by way of an extension of boundaries, to wit, the northern boundary to be the sixtieth parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the said sixtieth parallel; the eastern boundary to be the present eastern boundary as far north as the northeast corner of the Province, thence on a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of the Hudson Bay;

And whereas the said resolution, and the delimitation of territory contained therein, was determined by the said Parliament of

Canada without reference to, or consultation with, this House or the present eastern boundary line of the Province of Saskatchewan to the Executive Members thereof:

And whereas, at a conference held between the Federal authorities and representatives of the Province in the month of March, 1909, respecting all and singular the premises (a report of which has been duly communicate to this House, and is hereinafter set forth), it was proposed by the said representatives of the Province that the Province would be willing to surrender its right to the territory granted to it in the year 1881, as aforesaid, and accept the territory set forth in the said resolution of the Parliament of Canada of the thirteenth day of July 1908, hereinbefore set forth, upon satisfactory terms being given to the Province;

And whereas the said report of the representatives of this Province hereinbefore referred to is as follow:—

“We, the undersigned, appointed to represent the Executive of the Province of Manitoba at the conference with the Federal Government, report as follows:—

“Pursuant to an appointment made by the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, we met in conference at his office on Friday, the twelfth day of March, 1909, Hon. W. S. Fielding being also present, representing the Federal Government.

“Sir Wilfrid suggested that the first thing necessary for us to consider would be the resolution of the House of Commons in respect to the allocation of our boundaries. We urged the position taken by the Government and by the Legislative Assembly of this Province, pointing out that this allocation was depriving Manitoba of a large territory which had already been given to us by an Act of the Parliament of Canada, passed in 1881, and afterwards confirmed by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, and that it was not as large as the Government and the Legislative Assembly of this Province thought fair and equitable.

“Sir Wilfrid then stated that he could not and would not make any change in this resolution of the House of Commons delimiting the area to be given to us, in view of the fact that it was an arrangement made between the Liberal members in the House of Commons from Manitoba and himself before being introduced into the House of Commons, and was, therefore, unchangeable, nor would he discuss the merits of a larger area as urged by us.

“At this point, it being one o'clock, Sir Wilfrid proposed that we adjourn until the sixteenth, in order that we might consider this first

essential of the conference, viz., the settlement of the territory to be added.

"On Tuesday, the sixteenth of March, Sir Wilfrid being indisposed, the conference was further postponed, and it was not resumed until the nineteenth.

"On re-assembling on that date, your delegates, believing that the refusal of the Parliament of Canada might afford some reason for further delay in the settlement of the matter under consideration, accepted the area so suggested by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the hope that by so doing we would have removed every obstacle that we considered could possibly be raised against the settlement of the whole question.

"The allocation of the territory thus being disposed of, we proceeded to discuss the financial terms that ought to be given this Province. We presented the memorandum of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which, in a word, was to the effect that we simply asked for a position of equality in respect to financial terms with our sister Provinces to the west, the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

"To this Sir Wilfrid most strenuously objected, claiming that we were not entitled to similar treatment. We then pointed out to him that, inasmuch as he had determined the territory and offered the same by resolution, it was incumbent on him to suggest the financial terms, and we pressed him to name what he considered would be adequate compensation and proper financial terms, when he suggested the amount of ten thousand dollars a year, which amount, of course, we regarded as ridiculously absurd. We strongly urged upon him to give us some reasonable definite statement that we could submit to the Government and the Legislature of this Province for their rejection or approval, but he made no other suggestion than the one indicated above.

"The discussion continued, and we then made the alternative offer of accepting equal treatment with Ontario and Quebec along the line of ownership of lands, timber, ore, etc., in the territory to be added, and a like ownership of the undisposed-of Crown lands in Manitoba, that we might have equality of treatment with Ontario and Quebec in this respect, so that, if it was more desirable from the Federal point of view to give us equality of position with Ontario and Quebec, we would agree to recommend the same for acceptance to the Executive of the Province and through them to the Legislative Assembly.

"The conference then adjourned, to meet again on the twenty-third of March, Sir Wilfrid and Hon. Sydney Fisher representing the Federal Government. No further progress was made, Sir Wilfrid still refusing to consider the propositions of equality of treatment,

either with Saskatchewan and Alberta or Ontario and Quebec, so set out, nor could we obtain from him any further statement as to the financial allowance he would make to the Province on the addition of the territory.

"Sir Wilfrid then informed us that he considered there was no object to be gained by further continuing our conference.

"(Signed)

R. ROGERS,

"(Signed)

COLIN H. CAMPBELL.

And whereas this House has on numerous occasions affirmed the claim that the Province is entitled, in an extension of boundaries, to equal financial consideration and treatment with that accorded to the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

And whereas, at the said conference held in the month of March, 1909, the said representatives of the Province presented the claim of the Province for such equal treatment, and offered to accept such equality of treatment, and finally offered that they would accept either equality of treatment with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta to the west or the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east;

And whereas it appears that the said representatives pressed the Federal authorities for such an offer of financial terms as could be laid before this House for acceptance, and that the Executive of this Province have since the date of the said conference further pressed and urged for an offer from the Federal authorities of such a nature as might be laid before this House for acceptance.

And whereas the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, by letter dated the twenty-seventh day of December, 1909, addressed to the Prime Minister of this Province, said amongst other things, as follows:

"I have only to add that we are ready to re-open negotiations with the full assurance on our part that we are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit."

And whereas, in reply to said letter, the Prime Minister of this Province wrote the Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier as follows:

WINNIPEG, Jan. 8, 1910.

"My Dear Sir Wilfrid,—

"I have yours of December 27th, and am indeed pleased to note your expression of assurance that you are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit. His being the case, there should be no difficulty in arriving at an immediate final settlement.

"If you will refer to the resolutions of our Legislature, which you have in your possession, I cannot help feeling that you yourself

will agree that Manitoba is not asking for anything but that which is fair and just, for certainly, if we did not think our claim to be such, we would not be making it.

"In regard to our claim we will be entirely satisfied whether you elect to give us a position of equality under the terms and conditions that govern your treatment of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west or of Ontario to the east.

"I cannot see why you should hesitate to name such terms and conditions by resolution of your Parliament. This would only be following the same form which you adopted in the case of allocating of our boundaries. You have our proposition approved by resolution of our Legislature. Now, then, if this is not satisfactory to you, let us have your alternative proposition, when I will at once submit the same to our Legislature, which meets about the first of February.

"And let me assure you that I will sincerely appreciate your careful consideration of our proposition, and with such consideration I am hopeful that you will not suggest any terms that will not mean a position of equality for Manitoba with her sister Provinces.

"Believe me, my dear Sir Wilfrid, I am, yours very sincerely,

"(Signed)

R. P. ROBLIN."

And whereas the delay in settlement of the financial terms is detrimental and injurious to the development of the Province, and, further, that no good purpose can be served by any further delay, and it is desirable, in the best interests of this Province, that the said matters should at once be determined and finally settled.

Therefore be it resolved, That this House assents to and ratifies and confirms the offer made by the representatives of the Province at the conference held with the Federal authorities in the month of March last in reference to the aforesaid territory lying immediately east of the Province of Manitoba, hereinbefore set forth, and agrees to accept the territory set forth in the resolution of the Parliament of Canada on the thirteenth day of July, 1908, also hereinbefore set forth, upon satisfactory financial terms being given to the Province by the Federal authorities; and further, that this House is desirous of affirming the position of the right of the Province to equality of treatment either with the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west, or the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east, and desires to urge upon the Federal authorities that they would, as urged by our delegates and by the Government of this Province from time to time, immediately announce or offer the financial terms which they are willing to concede to the Province on the addition of the aforesaid territory to the Province of Manitoba, and further affirms its readiness to accept the said territory upon the basis of equality of treatment with either the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta or Ontario and Quebec; and further, that this House cannot see any valid reason why the Federal authorities should not at once name the

financial terms which they think fair and generous, so that the same might be considered forthwith and an end put to all further controversy respecting the premises.

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**T. H. Johnson Moves an Amendment to Government's Fair Amendment, as follows:**

That all the words after the word "forth" in the seventh line of the last paragraph of the said amendment be struck out and the following substituted in lieu thereof:—

"And that, in the opinion of this House, the financial arrangements between the Dominion and the Province of Manitoba should be either—

"(a) Equality of treatment with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, having due regard to what this Province has already received, or is entitled to under previous arrangements with the Dominion Government, such equality to be determined by an investigation and adjustment, or

"(b) Equality of treatment with the Provinces to the east, by this Province receiving the lands, minerals, timber and fisheries;

"That a Committee of this House be appointed to inquire into and recommend to this Legislature which of these is preferable and to prepare proposals to submit to the Dominion as to the said terms."

And the Question being put on the amendment to the said proposed amendment, the House divided; and the names being called for, they were taken down as follows:—

**The Vote on the Several Resolutions**

**YEAS:**

**Messieurs**

<i>Armstrong</i> (Gladstone),	<i>Norris</i> ,
<i>Baird</i> ,	<i>Ross</i> ,
<i>Campbell</i> (Dauphin),	<i>Thornton</i> ,
<i>Johnson</i> (Winnipeg West),	<i>Walton</i> ,
<i>Jonasson</i> ,	<i>Williams</i> ,
<i>McConnell</i> ,	<i>Winkler</i> . . . . . 13
<i>Malcolm</i> ,	



## NAYS:

## Messieurs

<i>Armstrong (P. la P.),</i>	<i>Lauzon,</i>
<i>Argue,</i>	<i>Lawrence,</i>
<i>Bernier,</i>	<i>Lynch,</i>
<i>Bonnycastle,</i>	<i>Lyons.</i>
<i>Cameron,</i>	<i>Mitchell,</i>
<i>Campbell (Morris),</i>	<i>Presfontaine,</i>
<i>Carroll,</i>	<i>Robson.</i>
<i>Coldwell,</i>	<i>Rogers.</i>
<i>Ferguson,</i>	<i>Simpson,</i>
<i>Gordon,</i>	<i>Steel.</i>
<i>Grain.</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>
<i>Howden,</i>	<i>Waddell . . . . .24</i>

So it passed in the negative.

And the Question being put on the amendment, the House divided; and the names being called for, they were taken down as follows:—

## YEAS:

## Messieurs

<i>Armstrong (P. la P.),</i>	<i>Lauzon.</i>
<i>Argue,</i>	<i>Lawrence,</i>
<i>Bernier,</i>	<i>Lynch,</i>
<i>Bonnycastle,</i>	<i>Lyons,</i>
<i>Cameron.</i>	<i>Mitchell,</i>
<i>Campbell (Morris).</i>	<i>Presfontaine.</i>
<i>Carroll,</i>	<i>Robson,</i>
<i>Coldwell,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Ferguson,</i>	<i>Simpson,</i>
<i>Gordon.</i>	<i>Steel.</i>
<i>Grain,</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>
<i>Howden,</i>	<i>Waddell . . . . .24</i>

## NAYS:

## Messieurs

<i>Armstrong (Gladstone),</i>	<i>Norris.</i>
<i>Baird,</i>	<i>Ross,</i>
<i>Campbell (Dauphin).</i>	<i>Thornton,</i>
<i>Johnson (Winnipeg West),</i>	<i>Walton.</i>
<i>Jonasson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>
<i>McConnell,</i>	<i>Winkler . . . . .13</i>
<i>Malcolm,</i>	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

Then the main Question, so amended, being put, the House divided; and the names being called for, they were taken down as follows:—

## YEAS:

## Messieurs

<i>Armstrong</i> (P. la P.),	<i>Lauzon,</i>
<i>Argue,</i>	<i>Lawrence,</i>
<i>Bernier,</i>	<i>Lynch,</i>
<i>Bonnycastle,</i>	<i>Lyon,</i>
<i>Cameron,</i>	<i>Mitchell,</i>
<i>Campbell</i> (Morris),	<i>Préfontaine,</i>
<i>Carroll,</i>	<i>Hobson,</i>
<i>Coldwell,</i>	<i>Rogers,</i>
<i>Ferguson,</i>	<i>Simpson,</i>
<i>Gordon,</i>	<i>Steel,</i>
<i>Gwin,</i>	<i>Taylor,</i>
<i>Howden,</i>	<i>Waddell</i> . . . . .24

## NAYS:

## Messieurs

<i>Armstrong</i> (Gladstone),	<i>Norris,</i>
<i>Baird,</i>	<i>Ross,</i>
<i>Campbell</i> (Dauphin),	<i>Thornton,</i>
<i>Johnson</i> (Winnipeg West),	<i>Walton,</i>
<i>Jonasson,</i>	<i>Williams,</i>
<i>McConnell,</i>	<i>Winkler</i> . . . . .13
<i>Malcolm,</i>	

So it was resolved in the affirmative.

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**SIR WILFRID'S MOST RECENT MISREPRESENTATION OF THE  
POSITION AND CLAIMS OF MANITOBA ON THE  
BOUNDARY QUESTION**

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(*Quoted from Hansard, April 27, 1910.*)

Mr. A. Haggart, member for Winnipeg, moved a resolution reciting the position of Manitoba respecting its claim for an extension of boundaries, concluding as follows:—

“Now, therefore, be it resolved, that this House affirms the Province of Manitoba is entitled to equality of treatment with either the said Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west or with the

said Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east, and regret that the Government of the Dominion did not agree to give to Manitoba such equality of treatment."

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Mr. Speaker, if the object of my hon. friend who has just addressed the House (Mr. Alex. Haggart), was as he asserted to plead the cause of Manitoba for what he called equal justice with the other Provinces, I am sure that on reflection he will agree with me that the method he has adopted of presenting his case to the House was not calculated very effectively to achieve the object he had in mind. My hon. friend knows that by the rules of this House a motion presented under the circumstances under which this motion is presented, that is, as an amendment to go into Supply, cannot be amended, and therefore, cannot be met in all its bearings, and in all its different aspects. If there be in this motion, as I think there are, statements of fact which are true, and statements of fact which are wrong, if there be conclusions which can be accepted, and conclusions which cannot be accepted, they have all to be accepted in the whole or denied in the whole. My hon. friend, since his sole object, as he says, was to plead the cause of Manitoba, would have been better inspired if in the early stages of this session he had brought his motion forward as a notice of motion, which could have been met in all its bearings, accepted in part or amended in part, accepted in the whole or rejected in the whole; whereas, as his motion is presented now, it leaves us no option, but to reject it, because there are parts in it which it would be impossible to accept. I sympathize with the statement of my hon. friend, that the Province of Manitoba has been anxious for years past to have its territory extended. We can all agree that the territory of Manitoba from the beginning was altogether too exiguous; we can all agree that it should have been extended, which it would have been easy to have done at the time, to the north, and to the west. Years ago the Province of Manitoba came to the doors of this House, and the last time it was successful. That was in the year 1905, when it submitted a petition to this House, supported by a delegation from the Province of Manitoba which waited on the Government, including seven members from the other side of the House, asking for an extension of its boundaries. Unfortunately for Manitoba at that time, it set up a pretention which encroached on the west, on the pretentions of the Province of Saskatchewan, and which encroached on the east on the pretentions and claims of the Province of Ontario. The Province of Manitoba, in that petition, asked that its boundaries should be extended westward beyond the limit which was then the jurisdiction of the Legislature of the Province of Saskatchewan, and that Legislature protested, and protested vigorously, against the territory being encroached on, and any portion of it being given to the Province of Manitoba. Later on it also protested against any part of the territory north of the boundary of the Province of Manitoba being given to that Province. Under these circumstances we thought it advisable—and I think everybody will agree that it was a

wise step—that we should have a conference of the three provinces interested—Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario—to discuss the question. That conference took place, if I remember rightly, in the fall of 1906, unfortunately we could come to no agreement. I may state what took place, because it is a matter of history. The Province of Saskatchewan asked that its boundary should be extended north of the present boundary of Manitoba to the shore of Hudson bay. The Federal Government, after giving the matter due consideration, could not come to such conclusion. We thought that according to the geographical condition of the country the territory north of the present boundary of Manitoba should be given to Manitoba itself. Upon this ground we set aside the claim of Saskatchewan, and we gave to Manitoba what it asked for in that part of the territory. At the same time we could not agree to extend the territory of Manitoba westward further than its present boundaries. Then we came to the question of the claim of Manitoba eastward. The claim of Manitoba eastward was that the boundary of the present Province should be extended north to the present boundary of Ontario, north of the Albany river up to a line drawn from the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, which would bring the Province of Manitoba into the vicinity of Fort William at the head of Lake Superior. The Province of Ontario asked that the present boundaries of Ontario should be extended to the waters of the Churchill river, and that the Churchill river, should be the boundary between Manitoba and Ontario. After giving this matter the best consideration we could, and with no other object than to do substantial justice to all the parties interested—

Mr. Hughes—The hon. the Prime Minister does not mean that the Churchill river was to be the boundary between Manitoba and Ontario.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I am not in error. My hon. friend may smile, but he has only to look at the proceedings to see that the claim put forward by Sir James Whitney was that the Province of Ontario should be extended westward to the waters of the Churchill river, and that the Churchill river should be the boundary between Ontario and Manitoba. We could not agree to this. We thought the pretensions of the Province of Ontario on that point were exaggerated. On the other hand, we thought that the pretensions of the Province of Manitoba were exaggerated also in asking that their boundary should be extended to the vicinity of Lake Superior, and we brought a resolution before the House which is recited in the resolution my hon. friend has quoted, extending the boundary of the Provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, the present boundaries at least, forward to the 88th and 89th degree of longitude on the shores of Hudson bay.

“The northern boundary to be the 60th parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the present eastern boundary line of the Province of Saskatchewan to the 60th parallel; the eastern boundary to be

the present eastern boundary so far north as the northeast corner of the Province, thence on a straight line to the point where the 89th meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson bay."

This proposed line seemed to meet with the fair judgment of the members of this House and was adopted by the unanimous resolution of it. Then the question arose as to how far the territory of Manitoba was to be extended, as it was to be given the administration of a larger area than it had at that time. It was fair and reasonable as we thought that the Province of Manitoba should be given for that purpose, for the civil administration of that territory added to its present territory, fair compensation. We were not prepared to say what should be the amount of that compensation, but the resolution went on to say upon this point that the compensation should be determined as follows:

"That whereas notwithstanding the extension of territory above described the ungranted lands of the Crown in the territory so to be added to the said Province will still continue to be administered by the Government of Canada for the purposes of the Dominion; and the said Province will not have the public land as a source of revenue.

"It is just and equitable to recognize the increased cost of civil government with such an extension of territory will occasion to the Province, and in view of the premises, to make to the said Province an increased allowance by money payment, the amount of which should be the subject of negotiation between the Government of Canada and the Government in Manitoba."

This resolution therefore affirms one thing, that for the civil administration of the new territory which was to be given to the Province of Manitoba as an extension of Manitoba, and as the public lands in its territories did not belong to the Province but to the Dominion, we should give it a money compensation and that this being determined as a principle that amount should be determined by negotiation between the two Governments, that is to say, the Government of the Dominion and the Government of Manitoba. This was in the month of July, 1908. In the following month of February I wrote in these terms to Mr. Roblin, the Premier of Manitoba:

(See letter in correspondence given before.)

Having by the letter which I have just read enclosing this draft Bill to Mr. Roblin, invited a conference between his Government and the Dominion Government, the conference took place here some time in the spring of 1909. I should say before I go further, that this conference was attended on behalf of the Government of Manitoba not by Mr. Roblin, who unfortunately was away in poor health, as I understand, but by Mr. Rogers, the Minister of Public Works, and Mr. Campbell, the Attorney-General. My hon. friend has read a report

which was made after the conference by Mr. Rogers and Mr. Campbell to their Government. I have only this to observe to my hon. friend on this point at the present time. A conference took place between the Government, represented by myself, and on the first day, by my hon. friend the Minister of Finance, and on the second day by my hon. friend, the Minister of Agriculture, with the two gentlemen I have just named, Mr. Rogers and Mr. Campbell. We separated without affecting anything, but they gave a report of the proceedings on what they conceived to be the proceedings, to their Government.

I have only this to observe to my hon. friend on this report: It is customary—and everybody will agree that there is no necessity for defending the practice—when a conference has taken place between two parties, that a common report should be made so that, if there is a difference of opinion, that difference of opinion can be settled then and there, and, if it is not possible to agree upon an identical statement, each party can state its own version. I never heard of the report being made by Messrs. Rogers and Campbell until I saw it in print. Perhaps I shall not surprise my hon. friend if I state that Messrs. Rogers and Campbell had told us at the end of the conference that, as we had not agreed, each should prepare a report for our respective Governments, I would have agreed to that. We might or we might not have agreed upon the report; we might or we might not have differed upon the facts; but, at all events, I think it would have been only fair, since Messrs. Rogers and Campbell intended to make a report that they should ask us whether we thought it was advisable to make a report or not. In the report made by Messrs. Rogers and Campbell to their Government, it was stated that I had offered, as compensation to the Government of Manitoba, for administering justice and the civil requirements of that community, the sum of \$10,000. When my attention was drawn to this I refused to discuss the statement; I refused to take it seriously. Whatever may be the opinion of my views held by hon. members on this side, I think that all will give me credit for some common sense—I should expect that at all events. Messrs. Rogers and Campbell state in the report, as read by my hon. friend in the House, that they thought this offer was ridiculous. I would agree with them—such an offer would have been ridiculous. I have nothing more to say. The fact is, we never came to any conclusion, no offer was made on one side or the other. After the report had been made, my attention was called to this question by my hon. friend from Marquette (Mr. Roche), who asked me last session if it was our intention to introduce a Bill to extend the limits of Manitoba. To that question I gave the answer read by my hon. friend from Winnipeg (Mr. A. Haggart) that we were not in a position to bring in a Bill until we had agreed upon the financial terms, and no agreement had been reached. Thereupon, Mr. Roblin wrote to me on the subject. My hon. friend (Mr. A. Haggart) stated in his opening remarks that he intended to give a complete history of the negotiations on this question, but he has omitted to give this letter of Mr. Roblin's and my an-

swer to it. I think hon. members will agree with me that the history of these negotiations is not complete without that correspondence. Mr. Roblin's letter to me was as follows:—

(See letter given before.)

My reply to this letter was as follows:—

(See letter given before.)

To his I received the following reply:—

(See letter given before.)

In reply, I wrote to Mr. Roblin as follows:—

(See letter given before.)

The House is now in possession of all the facts. I shall resume in a few words. In 1908 this House passed a resolution fixing the western boundary, and the eastern boundary of Manitoba. By so doing we had to deal with the respective pretensions of Ontario on one side and Saskatchewan on the other side. The pretensions of the Province of Saskatchewan we ignored altogether, we could not accept them. The pretensions of Ontario we ignored in part, but we had to take action and we believe that the boundaries which we proposed were fair to Manitoba, fair to Saskatchewan and fair to Ontario, and I am glad to say that at the present time the Province of Manitoba at all events thinks them fair and is disposed to accept them.

Then there was the consideration of the financial terms to be granted to Manitoba. I was impressed a moment ago by the statement made by my hon. friend that the Province of Manitoba came here asking simply for justice. I am disposed to treat Manitoba in no other spirit. Manitoba has a fair claim to make, and we are disposed to meet that claim. The question is what is fair in this matter. We disputed first of all with Manitoba as to the extent of the claim which she presented, and which she wanted to have accepted. Now, I believe that my hon. friend himself who has presented this motion to the House must agree, must admit that the claim put forward by the Province of Manitoba with regard to territory, when she wanted to fringe upon the territory of Saskatchewan, was not fair. I think he will agree also that when the claim of the Province of Manitoba went so far as to seek to have its eastern boundary in the vicinity of the head of Lake Superior, that, too, was not fair. But we determined to do the best that could be done for the Province of Manitoba, and I think on the whole we can invite the judgment of friend or foe that the ter-

ritory which we offered to Manitoba was as much as we could do for her.

There was another question to be considered. The Province of Manitoba was given a territory. The lands which are now in that new territory which is to be added to Manitoba cannot belong to Manitoba under the constitution which was given to Manitoba. Here is section 30 of the Act of Manitoba:

All ungranted or waste lands in the Province shall be from and after the date of the said transfer vested in the Crown and administered by the Government of Canada for the purposes of the Dominion, subject to and except in so far as the same may be affected by the conditions and stipulations contained in the agreement for the surrender of Rupert's Land by the Hudson Bay Company to Her Majesty.

When Manitoba was taken into the family of the Confederation, the family of provinces, the Parliament of that day decreed that the lands should belong not to Manitoba, but to the Dominion. My hon. friend (Mr. A. Haggart) stated in the course of his observations that Manitoba had been discriminated against and he wanted Manitoba not to be discriminated against or penalized. I have to say to my hon. friend, if Manitoba has been discriminated against, if Manitoba has been penalized, who has discriminated against Manitoba? Is it this Government?

Mr. W. H. Sharpe—Yes.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Yes? What Government was in power when this Act was passed? It was not the Laurier Government, it was not the Mackenzie Government, it was the Macdonald Government.

Mr. Molloy—A Tory government.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—The Tory Government of 1869. That was the government which imposed these terms on Manitoba. My hon. friend may say we have given terms to Saskatchewan and Alberta. When, sir, we gave terms to Saskatchewan and Alberta which appeared to be just and fair to every member in this House—

Mr. Lake—No.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—If sir, the terms were not fair and just that is the first intimation I have had of it. I maintain that the terms which we offered in 1905 in respect the money compensation were fair in the judgment of every member in this House. There were men who contended that Saskatchewan and Alberta should be given lands. That is another matter. So far as the terms were given they seemed



to everybody to be fair and just. But my hon. friend says: But these terms are in excess of what is given to Manitoba. I shall come to that presently. The question we have now to deal with is this: What are we to do to give satisfaction to Manitoba? What are we to do to give to that Province the extension of its limits for which it asks? In 1908 we passed a resolution offering them certain limits. I understand now that Manitoba has accepted those limits. We passed a further resolution that Manitoba should be given a money compensation to carry on the civil government. That has been agreed to by every member in this House. The amount of the compensation was left to be determined by negotiation between the two Governments. We could not agree. There was a conference, and I do not put any blame upon this person or that in connection with it. We could not agree. Then what are we going to do? The Government of Manitoba say to us: Bring in a Bill, such as you have in your mind, and we will accept it or reject it.

Mr. A. Haggart—A resolution, is it not?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—No, a Bill. Mr. Roblin asked us to bring in a Bill. Here is the last letter which he wrote upon the subject.

Mr. R. L. Borden—Resolution in the last letter.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—Very well, let us say that it should be a resolution. The terms of the resolution that we have before us are that there should be a negotiation between Manitoba and the Dominion Government. We had a preliminary negotiation, but we did not agree. Then, I invited a new negotiation with the Government of Manitoba. The Government of Manitoba said to us: Pass a resolution; we will accept it or reject it. Now, I place myself in the judgment of every man in this House, whether he sits on that side or this side, is it not more reasonable, before we pass a resolution of this kind, that we should follow the policy of the resolution passed in 1908, and have another conference with the Government of Manitoba to see whether we can or cannot agree? We had a conference in 1909 which lasted two days. On the first day, I am glad to say that we discussed the boundaries of Manitoba and the boundaries were accepted. That much was accomplished. But upon the second day we did not agree. Is it not possible that upon another conference we can agree? Is it not more reasonable that we should have a conference and try to agree than to ask Parliament to pass a resolution, which may be rejected by the Legislature of Manitoba? Suppose we say that we offer \$10,000, and suppose the Legislature of Manitoba say: We do not accept it, but we reject it. Then, sir, it seems that it is not in conformity with the dignity of this Parliament, it is not good business, either, that we should ask Parliament to agree to certain terms unless we have beforehand the satisfaction of knowing, a perfect knowledge, that what we offer is satisfactory to Manitoba. I ask my hon. friend: Does he not

believe that his friends would have been better advised if they had acted upon the suggestion of my letter of the 2st December, in which I said to Mr. Roblin: Come again, let us have another conference and try to come to an understanding rather than try to force this Parliament to pass a resolution suggesting that the Federal Parliament should contribute any amount, let it be \$50,000, \$100,000 or \$200,000 without knowing whether or not such a resolution would be accepted? I think, Mr. Speaker, that we are in a strong position when we say that we are ready to confer with Manitoba, that we are ready to negotiate with them, that we are ready to discuss with them and see what we shall give to them and upon what we can agree. Now, my hon. friend says in this resolution that Manitoba asks for two things. First it asks:—

Now, therefore, be it resolved that this House affirms that the Province of Manitoba is entitled to equality of treatment with either the said Provinces of Alberta or Saskatchewan to the west or with the said Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east, we regret that the Government of the Dominion did not agree to give to Manitoba such equality of treatment.

First of all let us look at the two alternatives we have here. The Province of Manitoba asked that they should be given equality of treatment with Ontario and Quebec; in other words, that the Province of Manitoba should be given the land. We have before us the memorial which was passed by the Legislature of Manitoba on January 20, 1908, and if this memorial of the Legislature of Manitoba the Province was asking for the land in the new territory to be added to Manitoba there would be something to be said in favor of it. But I want to call the attention of my hon. friend, and not only of my hon. friend from Winnipeg, but of all my hon. friends from Manitoba, to the fact that what is asked for in this resolution is that they be granted the lands, not only in the new territory which is to be given to Manitoba, but the lands in the whole province of Manitoba as originally constituted in 1869. That is what they are asking—

Some hon. members. Hear, hear.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—I am glad that I have stated the position correctly. Or they ask that they be given the same terms as were given to Alberta and Saskatchewan; in other words, what is asked by our friends on the other side of the House is not only that they be given an addition to their territory, but that the financial terms upon which Manitoba was organized in 1869 should be absolutely and completely revised and that new terms should be given to them altogether. They do not ask simply that they should have the lands in the new territory, but that the whole terms of confederation, under which they have been in this Dominion for forty years should be revised and that new conditions altogether should be made. Is that reasonable? Here is the Province of Manitoba asking, and I think asking with good cause, to have their territory extended. Well, then you and I, in the simplicity of our souls, would suppose that they

would ask for the land in that territory. No, they are not content to ask us to give them the land in that territory, but they say that we should revise our whole policy of the last forty years of keeping the control of the lands in the hands of this Dominion, set that policy aside and give to Manitoba the lands, not only in the new territory, but in the whole Province. That is the position taken by Manitoba, is it not? I ask if there is, for such a position, any ground that can be taken upon this request for new territory. If the Province of Manitoba is entitled to have the land of the whole Province vested in the Government of Manitoba it is not in consequence of this demand for new territory. It must be done, whether the territory is extended or not, but I submit that it is simply absurd to pretend that as a consequence of the extension of the territory of Manitoba the land should be given to the Province, not in the new territory alone, but in the whole territory of the Province. I can understand that the Province of Manitoba has a good case when it says: If you give us new territory give us the means of administering it. We are prepared to do that, and that is what we did under the resolution of 1908, but Manitoba says: No, we will not do that; the parliament of Canada was wrong in 1869. When the Government of Sir John Macdonald incorporated the Province of Manitoba and brought it into the Dominion, Parliament was wrong in keeping to the Dominion the lands of Manitoba. That is altogether another proposition, and that is a proposition that for my part, say it to our friends, and I say it to our foes on the other side, to the members from Ontario, from Saskatchewan, from Quebec, and from all the Provinces, that we are not prepared to reverse the policy which was adopted in 1869 by the Government of Sir John Macdonald, and which has been followed ever since by all successive Governments. Now, sir, I am prepared to meet my hon. friend upon this, that Manitoba is entitled to compensation either in land or money in the new territory which is to be annexed, and the amount of compensation must be such as will give Manitoba the facilities and the means of administering that new territory. I am prepared to meet them upon this, and that is the reason that we are asking for a new negotiation of these terms, because if Messrs. Roblin, Rogers and Campbell ask us—I will not discuss what took place in the conference—but if they ask that we should revise the whole terms of Manitoba, not only with respect to the territory to be annexed, but with respect to the whole Province nobody should be surprised if we could not agree. But I hope that in the new conference, Mr. Roblin and his ministers will understand that we are to deal with new territory and nothing else.

My hon. friend, in his resolution, also asks that we shall not only give to Manitoba the lands in the whole Province, but that we shall give to Manitoba the terms that we have given to Alberta and Saskatchewan. That is to say, that we should revise the financial terms which have been given to Manitoba. Well, sir, I have only to observe that these financial terms have been revised again and again; they have been revised four or five times already. The last time they were revised was in 1907, by a resolution adopted by this House on the 25th of March, of that year, and since embodied in an Imperial statute which has fixed for all time the terms and conditions and finan-

cial arrangements which are to exist between the Government of the Dominion and the Provincial Governments. The resolution which was passed in this House on the 25th of March 1907, was in the form of a petition to His Majesty the King, asking that the financial terms which had been fixed at Confederation for the Provinces, should be revised for Manitoba as well as for all the other provinces: and revised they were. The petition went on to say:—

We pray that your Majesty may be graciously pleased to cause a measure to be laid before the Imperial Parliament at its present session, repealing the provisions of section 118 of the British North America Act, 1867, aforesaid, and substituting therefor the scale of payments above set forth, which shall be a final and unalterable settlement of the amounts to be paid yearly to the several Provinces of the Dominion for their local purposes and the support of their Governments and Legislatures.

This House so determined in 1907, and it is embodied in an Imperial statute, and forms the law and the constitution at the present time. As far as that goes, to me it is final. But again, I repeat, as far as new territory is concerned which may be added to the Province of Manitoba, it is fair and reasonable that compensation should be made to the Province, either in land or money, to enable it to administer civil government for that territory, and that territory alone; and if my hon. friend with his friends come to Ottawa and have a new conference with us on this question, we are ready to meet them; and if it is our good fortune to come to a satisfactory agreement, we shall be only too happy to introduce legislation to give effect to the result of the negotiations which may take place between us. But, in the meantime, I do not see how my hon. friend can expect such a resolution as he has moved to be adopted by Parliament when the whole matter is still open and we are still waiting for the answer of the Manitoba Government.

Mr. R. L. Borden—Mr. Speaker, my right hon. friend the Prime Minister, found some fault with the mode in which this matter has been introduced to the House by the hon. member for Winnipeg. There is no difficulty whatever in having a resolution in amendment to the motion to go into Committee of Supply accepted by the Government. I have within my reach a dozen cases, within the last dozen years, in which the Government has accepted such amendments, not only from hon. gentlemen on the other side of the House, but from hon. gentlemen on this side of the House as well. Therefore, the only question is whether or not the proposal presented to this House by the hon. member for Winnipeg is a just and reasonable proposal, one which the Government ought to accept, having regard to the just rights of the Province of Manitoba. My right hon. friend the Prime Minister has gone over a great deal of ancient history in the somewhat lengthy and discursive remarks which he has addressed to the House. I am not

going over the questions of the delimitation of the boundaries. It was not necessary that the Prime Minister should go over that question at all. That question has been settled and determined. The Government of Canada made a certain proposal by resolution presented to this Parliament, and afterwards, if I remember correctly, embodied in an Act passed by this Parliament. The Province of Manitoba had made its proposals to which the Prime Minister had alluded. The Province of Manitoba, for the purpose of bringing about a settlement of this question, which had been delayed by the inaction of this Government for so many years, yielded a portion of its claims and accepted the extended boundaries as they were proposed to this Parliament by the right hon. gentleman and his colleagues. In that regard, I would like to make one observation and ask one question of hon. gentlemen in this House. The Prime Minister has taken strong grounds upon the position that it is not a proper course for the Government to present the financial terms to Parliament by resolution, and then forward them to the Government of Manitoba for its acceptance or rejection. I would like to ask any man in this House possessing ordinary reasonable faculties to tell me what the difference is between presenting the boundaries to Parliament by resolution and then leaving them to be accepted or rejected by the Legislature of Manitoba, on the one hand, and on the other hand, presenting the financial terms to Parliament by resolution, and then leaving them to be accepted or rejected by the Legislature of Manitoba? If there is any reasonable difference of principle between the two courses, I will be glad to take my seat, and let the Prime Minister explain what it is.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier.—The difference is very obvious. There was a dispute between Manitoba, Ontario and Saskatchewan as to what should be the limits. We had a conference on the subject, and we had to decide on our best judgment, since they could not agree.

Mr. R. Borden.—There it is in a nutshell. Because there was a disagreement between this Government and the Government of Manitoba in respect of the boundaries, because the Government of Manitoba insisted upon certain territory which this Government thought should go to Ontario and to Saskatchewan, the Government brought in its proposal by resolution of Parliament and passed it. There is an exactly similar difference of opinion between this Government and the Government of Manitoba with regard to the financial terms. Why, then, could not the Government of Canada follow exactly the same course—bring in its proposals, have them embodied in a resolution of Parliament, and then leave them to be accepted or rejected? There is no difference between the two positions.

But I would like to submit two or three considerations to my hon. friend in that regard. My right hon. friend, as I understand him, takes the ground that conference No. 1, having absolutely failed, that conference No. 2, having absolutely failed, the Government of Manitoba, having made a distinct and plain, and as it seems to me reasonable proposition to this Government, a further conference should be

had without this Government making any reply whatever to the proposals of the Government of Manitoba. Indeed, my hon. friend was so carried away by his imagination at the close of his remarks as to say that he was waiting for a reply from the Government of Manitoba, when only fifteen minutes before he had read a communication from the Prime Minister of Manitoba to which up to the present time he has not, so far as I understand, made any reply whatever. It is not the Government of Canada that is awaiting a reply from the Government of Manitoba; it is the Government of Manitoba that has been waiting for more than a year for a reply from the Government of Canada to the most reasonable proposition made by the Government of Manitoba to the right hon. gentleman at the conference alluded to. My right hon. friend has said that a certain report in the press of a report made by the delegates of the Province of Manitoba to the Government of Manitoba is so absolutely absurd that it cannot be taken seriously. In that criticism, my right hon. friend involves more than the delegates of Manitoba. He involves in that criticism the able and intelligent correspondents of many Liberal newspapers in Canada, who took that so seriously that they telegraphed it to all the great Liberal journals throughout this country, and did not regard the proposal as so supremely absurd as the right hon. gentleman would have us believe.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—It did not come from me.

Mr. R. L. Borden—I am not suggesting that it came from the right hon. gentleman. I accept his word unequivocally, but I would like to ask one question. There was a question about the boundaries of Manitoba and Manitoba gave way. It accepted the boundaries as proposed by this Government. There was then, I presume, a conference as to financial terms. We know that the Government of Manitoba made a proposal. Did the Government of Canada make any proposal? Has it at any time up to the present made any proposal or offered any financial terms? I think that is a fair and reasonable question. My right hon. friend, of course has a right to decline to answer it if he cares.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—What is your question?

Mr. R. L. Borden—My right hon. friend declares that he made no such proposal as that, namely, \$10,000. Did he offer any sum whatever to make any proposal?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—We made no offer whatever.

Mr. R. L. Borden—Has my right hon. friend arrived at any conclusion up to the present time as to what he is willing to offer?

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—No.

Mr. R. L. Borden—Would it not be well, then, instead of imputing any blame to the Government of Manitoba or passing any criticism upon the course it has taken, to make up his mind as to the financial terms which he is willing to offer to the Province of Manitoba?

There is no need of any conference. When he has made up his mind and consulted his colleagues and obtained their approval as to the financial terms which he is willing to offer to the Province of Manitoba, all that he has to do is to go to his office and write a letter to the Prime Minister of Manitoba and say to him: These are the terms which the Government of Canada are willing to offer to the Province of Manitoba and to the Parliament of Canada for its approval. That is what we are waiting for in these negotiations at the present moment. The Government of Manitoba has made up its mind as to the boundaries and has accepted the proposal of this Government. It has made up its mind as to the financial terms. It has said: We will take either one thing or the other. We will take either the treatment you have accorded to Saskatchewan and Alberta, or we will take the treatment which has been accorded to Ontario and Quebec. We will take either the one or the other. The right hon. gentleman did not at the first conference say what he would do. He did not at the second conference say what he would do, and up to the present time he has not come to a conclusion as to what he will do, and up to the present he has given no answer whatever to the proposal of Manitoba made to his Government through him more than a year ago. That is the situation. This question has been hanging in the balance for years. Why does not my right hon. friend arrive at a conclusion? The first essential step he must take for the purpose of arriving at a conclusion is to make up his mind as to what he is willing to recommend to this Parliament as fair and reasonable and just treatment to the Province of Manitoba. My right hon. friend has spoken of the giving up of the lands of Alberta or Saskatchewan or Manitoba as if it were some unheard of and terrible thing which would bring about calamity not only to the Provinces in question, but to the Dominion as a whole. What is the position of affairs? There are nine Provinces in Canada today. In six of those Provinces the lands of the Crown are disposed of by the Crown according to the advice of the Provincial ministers and under the authority of the Provincial Parliaments. In three of those Provinces the lands of the Crown are disposed of upon the advice of the officers of His Excellency the Governor-General and upon the laws and by the authority of the laws enacted in this Parliament. They are lands of the Crown in the one case as much as in the other, the only distinction being that in the disposal of those lands the Crown in the three cases I have mentioned acts by the advice of the Government of Canada, the members of the Cabinet of Canada, and in the six other cases the Crown acts by the advice of the Provincial ministers. Is there any reason why the Province of Manitoba should not exercise the same wisdom and the same prudence and the same discretion in disposing of its public lands as the Government of the Province of Ontario or as the Government of the Province of Quebec? My right hon. friend says we are asked to give up those lands. They are lands of the Crown in either the one case or the other, and the only question for consideration is as to the advice by which those lands may be disposed of in the one case or the other. For my part as I have said in this Parliament

over and over again and on the public platforms of this country, I see no reason why the public lands of Alberta should not be dealt with by the Provincial Legislature of Alberta, I do not see why that course should not be taken in respect of Saskatchewan, and I see no reason why it should not be pursued in respect of Manitoba. I further say that the attitude of the Provincial Government of Manitoba in this matter seems eminently reasonable because they say: do either the one thing or the other, accord us the same treatment that you have accorded to Alberta or Saskatchewan on the one hand, put us in that class, or accord us the same treatment that you have accorded to the other two Provinces, Ontario and Quebec, and put us in that class, but bring this to a conclusion, and bring it to a conclusion according to either one or the other of those classes.

My right hon. friend has spoken of the antiquity of the arrangement under which the Government of Canada administers the public lands of Manitoba, and Alberta, and Saskatchewan. It is perfectly true that in 1869 under the administration of Sir John A. Macdonald, this arrangement was in the first instance made, but I have not the slightest doubt that if Sir John A. Macdonald had been alive and was controlling the destinies of Canada today, within the past 12 or 14 years, the public lands of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan would have been handed over to the administration of the Provincial Legislatures. Conditions today are not as they were in 1869. My right hon. friend knows we have made some advance and when he speaks of this matter having been settled in 1869, more than 40 years ago, I want him to remember that according to the very precedent which he stated only a little while ago, the financial terms which were settled at Confederation between the Government of Canada and the various Provinces were entirely changed at the instance of his own Government and after a conference with the Provincial Governments. Well, if that arrangement made at the time of Confederation could be altered no longer ago than 1905 or 1906, what is there in the action of a Canadian Government in 1869, that justifies my right hon. friend in regarding that as of the laws of the Medes and Persians one that is ultimately unalterable and final? He alludes to the fact that in the Act of the Imperial Parliament passed three or four years ago, by which that alteration in the subsidies was confirmed it was declared to be final and unalterable. But, he knows equally well that these words are vain and meaningless words. It would be an absolute absurdity for any Parliament to say that an enactment passed by that Parliament is final and unalterable. The same power that makes the enactment can repeal it. The Imperial Parliament tomorrow, if it sees fit, could repeal the enactment which the right hon. gentleman has declared to be final and unalterable. I have assumed that the words alluded to are in the statute as finally passed, but my hon. friend from



Vancouver (Mr. Cowan) reminds me that these words were struck out of the body of the statute, but are, in the schedule.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—They never were introduced into the Bill. Our petition has been added as a schedule to the Bill.

Mr. R. L. Borden—That is what I say—they are not in the body of the statute, but they are in the schedule. As I understand it, the Bill as originally prepared included the words, but I think that Mr. Churchill, in presenting the Bill to the House of Commons, stated that they had been struck out for the very reason I have suggested.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier—The hon. gentleman (Mr. R. L. Borden) is in error. They were not in the Bill as presented to the House, but, at our request, they were put into the schedule.

Mr. R. L. Borden—My right hon. gentleman (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) has misunderstood me, if he understood me as saying that they were in the Bill as presented to the Imperial House of Commons. I say they were not in the Bill as presented to the House of Commons, but they were in the Bill as presented to the Imperial Government. I understood they were in the draft Bill as presented to the Imperial Government by this Government for enactment by the Imperial Parliament. And my recollection of the debate, as I read it at the time, is that Mr. Churchill, under Secretary of State for the colonies, explained that they had been included in the draft presented to the Imperial Government, but, for the reasons I have alluded to, it was thought they should not be included in the Bill, though, as my right hon. friend (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) says, they were retained in the schedule—that is, in the petition presented by this Parliament for the enactment of this legislation.

I have nothing more to say. I think that the amendment of my hon. friend from Winnipeg (Mr. A. Haggart) points out a just and reasonable course to be pursued by this government and this parliament in dealing with the Province of Manitoba in this respect. I think that the amendment ought to be supported. And, in concluding, I desire to congratulate my hon. friend from Winnipeg, on the remarkably clear and forceful way in which he has presented this matter to the House. I may venture also, I think, to say that his treatment of it was characterize by the utmost fairness and courtesy to the right hon. Prime Minister and to every hon. gentleman who sits upon the Government side.

House divided.

Amendment negatived.

**Premier Roblin's Vigorous Reply to the Most Recent Utterances of  
Sir Wilfrid Laurier Sidestepping the Claims of Manitoba  
on the Question of Extending Manitoba's  
Boundaries**

Mr. Roblin said:

"I have read the press dispatches from Ottawa covering the debate and vote upon the motion of Mr. Haggart, which motion was a declaration calling for equality for the Province of Manitoba in the sisterhood of confederation.

"I regret, as a citizen of this Province and as a Canadian, that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberal party as led and directed by him, have declared by a formal vote that Manitoba shall never, so far as they are concerned, have equality either with Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west or with Quebec and Ontario to the east.

"I am equally gratified to know that the Conservative party, as led by R. L. Borden, have as emphatically declared that Manitoba is entitled to equality with the other sisters of confederation, and that they will so far as they are able, give Manitoba that status to which she is so justly entitled, and which is being withheld from her at the present time by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the Liberal party.

**Issue is Defined**

"The issue is now well defined and the smoke has been blown away. Sir Wilfrid and the Liberal party stand at the threshold of Parliament in a defiant attitude and declare that what the Government and Legislature of this Province has asked for shall never be given.

"It is not the first time that Manitoba has had a crisis in her history. I came into the public life of this country at a time when there was a crisis almost as great as the present, when the Parliament of Canada refused to give to this Province what was clearly her rights, and what was in the interests of the Dominion as a whole.

"In order to overcome the attitude of the Parliament at that time men of all political colors banded themselves together as one man and declared for provincial rights. A similar crisis has arisen, and it is essential, if the men of today are to receive the same credit and praise as did the men who stood in the breach 25 years ago on the disallowance question, that they should band themselves together and fight as one man until we have secured equality for our native or adopted Province, as the case may be.

**Traitors in the Camp**

"The fight will be a bitter and determined one, for the reason that we have traitors in our midst. We have men in Manitoba who

by virtue of conditions that I need not explain have secured spheres of influence that enable them to muddy the waters like the cuttle fish of old. Therefore, my hope is in the honest conscientious and patriotic men who believe in justice and equality for Manitoba.

"We are having for the moment financial prosperity here on account of the large number of people that are coming in with considerable capital, and the blessings of providence in the way of good crops; and we may not, therefore, feel like staying our hand in so far as material matters are concerned in order to do a patriotic service to our country.

### **Calls of Education**

"To illustrate—Manitoba needs and demands, in order to keep abreast of the times, that her University should be enlarged and strengthened and placed upon a financial basis that it can compete successfully with any other institution in Canada, if not on the continent. This cannot be done without direct taxation at the present time, but with Manitoba on a basis with the other Provinces named, our University question can be settled as soon as those competent to deal with a question of that kind can work out the lines that it should be built upon.

"I look upon this question as dealt with last night as a declaration on the part of Sir Wilfrid to further punish Manitoba, and so far as I am concerned, I will never ask the Legislature of Manitoba to formally declare that the people of Manitoba are not as much entitled to every right from the Parliament of Canada as are the people in the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan on the west or Ontario and Quebec on the east. Nor will the present Legislature, as constituted, ever sanction any such surrender.

### **Manitoba's Choice**

"It will, therefore, be the duty of the electors of this Province to declare whether they want a Prime Minister and Legislature who will humiliate the citizens of this Province, injure Manitoba forever, and destroy the hopes and ambitions of those who believe it should be as great or greater than any of the Western Provinces, by electing men who will do as Sir Wilfrid tells them, who will submit to his dictation and who will be willing also to surrender their own dignity as citizens of a free country, or support men who demand a square deal.

"I repeat that this crisis in the history of this Province is greater than the disallowance one, because the rights contended for then had to come sooner or later, but if a traitor to Manitoba is found who will

surrender to Sir Wilfrid, then, forever, is Manitoba handicapped and the future made dark and unpromising so far as it is possible for such a handicap to thwart and destroy the enterprise, the industry and the ambitions of a people such as constitute the citizenship of Manitoba."

"To Sir Wilfrid Laurier's suggestion of a further conference on the matter, I am astonished at it, in view of the facts which are so well known. By a formal order-in-council, dated Jan. 17, 1910, his Government declared that the Province of Manitoba is not to enjoy its public lands as a source of revenue. And this is only a confirmation of what the Government has been advised has been his determined policy for some considerable time. Therefore there is nothing to negotiate on this point unless he is prepared to withdraw from that position. In this connection I think he has treated the Province very cavalierly in declining to answer my letter of some months ago, in which I stated definitely that Manitoba wanted equality with the other Provinces and if he was not in a position to give us what we believed were our rights, then to make a counter proposition that he was prepared to carry out.

### **Letters Unanswered**

"I have said he has not even had the courtesy to answer this letter. Therefore I can only see the promise of further humiliation in his suggestion. We have repeatedly gone to Ottawa to meet Sir Wilfrid and other members of his Government in connection with the boundary matter, and after presenting our case, were never able to get anything definite from him.

"The first intimation we had that he had reached any conclusion was the resolution that he submitted to parliament defining the area entirely different to what we asked for, and not agreed to by us until after it had been confirmed by the Parliament at Ottawa.

### **Surrendered Territorial Claims**

"In order to reach an amicable adjustment we pocketed our humiliation, surrendered rights given to us by the Privy Council and accepted the lesser area in the hope of reaching a satisfactory settlement. We feel therefore that we are justified in asking him to now tell us what he will do in connection with the terms since he has declared that we will not have lands, minerals or equality of treatment, and we will submit either directly to the people or to the Legislative Assembly, in case we are not prepared to accede to his suggested terms. I think that courtesy, to say nothing about the importance of the matter to Manitoba, demands that he should answer my letter in which I asked him what he is prepared to do."

THE INSPIRED GLOBE DISPATCH CONTAINING STATE-  
MENT THAT MANITOBA WAS OFFERED \$10,000 A  
YEAR BY LAURIER TO ADMINISTER TER-  
RITORY PROPOSED TO BE ADDED  
TO MANITOBA

(Special Dispatch to the Globe)

Ottawa, March 23.—The Manitoba Ministers, Hon. Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, had another interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier today, relative to the Province's demands for better financial terms in connection with the proposed extension of the provincial boundaries. *Sir Wilfrid said the Government could not agree to Manitoba's request for an extra cash subsidy similar to that given Alberta and Saskatchewan, and that the bargain made when Manitoba entered Confederation, with reference to the ownership of the Crown lands, should not now be revised.* Manitoba, Sir Wilfrid maintained, could not, after the lapse of so many years, be considered as being on the same footing as the new provinces just starting in to administer vast territories, with all the incidental expenses of organization, to maintain law and order, build roads, etc. But in lieu of granting Manitoba the ownership of the crown lands in the territory to be annexed to the Province, he said the Government was willing to allow an annual cash subsidy sufficient to cover the cost of administration of the new territory. At present the enforcement of law and order in the portion of Keewatin to be allocated to Manitoba costs only about \$1,500 per year. *It is understood the Dominion Government is willing to make an annual grant of \$10,000 or any reasonable amount necessary to cover all the expense to the province in this connection.* The Manitoba Ministers are, however, still dissatisfied with the Government's terms and are holding out for the full measure of their demands for an annual cash subsidy as set forth in the memorial presented to the Federal Government last year. They are evidently desirous of keeping their "grievance" for campaign purposes when the Roblin Government next appeals to the electors.

In view of the refusal of Manitoba to accept the terms offered by the Government, it is practically certain that there will be no Bill brought down this session to extend the provincial boundaries.

Hon. Messrs. Rogers and Campbell left tonight for Winnipeg.

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**FREE PRESS A POOR PROPHET ON THE BOUNDARY QUESTION**

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**Stated in 1906 It Would Be Settled Within a Month—Three and a  
Half Years Have Elapsed and the Matter Is No  
Nearer a Solution—Why?**

The Winnipeg Free Press of Friday, November 23rd, 1906, contained the following:

### Extension of the Boundary

"The calmness with which the Manitoba public has received Mr. Roblin's boundary manifesto is not, of course, due to any indifference to the question, but it is entirely owing to the public that the matter is on a fair way of adjustment along lines that will meet the just requirements of Manitoba.

"The electors of Manitoba, without a single exception, we believe, expect the Dominion Government, now that the question of boundary extension is up for settlement, to extend this province to Hudsons Bay, giving it an area that will make it the equal in size of the other large provinces. Port Churchill, which is the natural port for Western Canada, must be included in this area. Further, this area must come to us without any constitutional limitations or stipulations whatever.

"If the people of Manitoba thought that these requests, which are entirely reasonable, were to be refused, there would be a ferment throughout the Province. If they remain calm it is because they have confidence that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues will treat the Province fairly.

"There is no desire to make it a ground of offense that the Government has taken a fortnight to consider the matter; *but there should be no unreasonable delay in reaching a decision. Within a month from the date of the conference, which was held on November 12th, the judgment of the Federal authorities should be known. The Manitoba members of Parliament now in session will doubtless press for a decision at the earliest practicable date.*

"A denial of the just demands of Manitoba would be a serious matter politically for the Dominion Government, and putting it upon the lowest grounds, that of political expediency, Sir Wilfrid will note the advantage of dealing fairly with this Province. But it is not the political side of the matter which will influence the Premier half so much as the equitable claim of this Province for such enlargement as shall insure her position as an important part of Confederation.

"It will be advantageous for the Federal authorities to treat Manitoba generously, and the transferring to the Province of the public lands in the area to be added to Manitoba would be a statesmanlike act."

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### CONCLUDING WORDS OF SPLENDID SPEECH ON THE BOUNDARY QUESTION DELIVERED BY PREMIER ROBLIN IN THE LEGISLATURE ON JANUARY 15th, 1908

"I believe now I have covered the case. I have shown our position from the beginning to the end. I have established that, beginning with the first Parliament down to the last, we have continuously ad-

vocated increased boundaries. We have been consistent, we have been at times aggressive, but always sincere and honest. It is a matter that will affect the future of the Province for all time to come. It will materially affect the Dominion as a whole, as well. And therefore it is desirable that the question should now be settled upon principles that are fair and just to all.

"We ask, as I have stated, for nothing that will injure anyone else. We ask that the terms and conditions be the same as apply to Alberta and Saskatchewan. I need not go into this argument. I do not want to use the figures to show how great is their advantage over ours; that may be used by some but I shall not use them. But I think the broad statement of equality with Alberta and Saskatchewan, in view of what we have done as a Province in the way of pioneer work in the western country is justified—that we are justified in asking for that equality.

"I appeal to the House confidently for support of this petition, because on the result of our appeal the future must depend. Ten, twenty, thirty, forty—year, fifty years hence, our actions undoubtedly will be quoted and reviewed. Just as we today are proud to quote the action of those early Manitobans, Messrs. Clarke, Howard and Royal, in which they ask for extended areas as including north to Hudson Bay, so we hope that those coming after us will feel that we are as much in earnest in this matter as were those who have preceded us thirty or thirty-five years.

"It is not a question where men can differ and are justified in differing from any division or party, of creed or race. It is a question where all who are desirous of the promoting of Manitoba and the welfare of Canada can together join hands in securing a greater heritage giving a larger scope to the energies of our people, a wider field of usefulness for our citizens, an opportunity to make and weld a stronger link binding the east to the west—in fact, putting a keystone into the arch of Confederation that will be the pride and glory of those who come after us, and that will give an impetus to the patriotic sentiment that pervades Canada today and that will force us on to greater efforts in founding, establishing and confirming a great British commonwealth here on the North American continent."—  
(Loud applause).

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## **AN EXHAUSTIVE PRESENTATION OF MANITOBA'S EFFORTS TO SETTLE BOUNDARY QUESTION**

**Speech by Hon. Robert Rogers in the Manitoba Legislature, 1910,  
Giving History of Negotiations, and Showing How Policy  
of the Liberal Opposition Would Defeat  
Manitoba's Claim**

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The Opposition stirred up a hornet's nest when they attempted to make political capital out of the boundary question. In the Provincial Legislature on Friday, March 4, 1910, Hon. Robert Rogers showed that the resolution of T. C. Norris, under which the Province would accept the extension of the boundaries as proposed by the Dominion government, but leave the subject of financial terms in abeyance, was in open conflict with the British North America Act.

The proposition was absolutely absurd. If the Opposition suggestions were adopted, instead of facilitating negotiations the boundaries extension would be held up indefinitely and a deadlock would be created. Their attitude was such as to create a suspicion that they were only playing into the hands of the Laurier government to prevent Manitoba from securing its rights.

The Legislature, Mr. Rogers suggested, might be forced to pass a measure this session making it illegal for any member of the Provincial House to be in the employ of the Federal government. They had had too much interference in Manitoba already from Dominion officials. The only thing that would deter him was the faith he had in the electors of the Province.

### **COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW.**

Mr. Rogers gave a comprehensive and lucid review of the whole question. He traced the history of the negotiations between the two governments and the unsuccessful attempts of Manitoba to secure justice during the past decade. Step by step, year by year, he went thoroughly over the ground, showing how the Province had repeatedly been rebuffed by the Dominion authorities.

Vigorously and eloquently the minister of public works repudiated the insinuation that they had not approached the Dominion government in a spirit of fairness. He pointed out that if they had been endeavoring to make political capital out of the subject and were not sincere in their efforts they had had plenty of opportunity. On the occasion of one conference when they pressed for an extension of the boundaries according to the terms of the resolution passed unanimously



by the Provincial House, they were coolly told by Sir Wilfrid that this was impossible as the boundaries had already been decided upon at a caucus of Western Liberals. This would have been ample excuse for breaking off negotiations, for what right had a handful of Liberal members to dictate to the Province of Manitoba. They had every right to resent this interference. However, they did not do so.

#### AGREED TO PROPOSAL.

Again, at the last conference, when they urged for an extension of the boundaries according to the Provincial resolution—an extension which they are entitled to by both law and equity—they would have had every reason to refuse to accept the limitation proposed by Sir Wilfrid. In their endeavor to come to some agreement and to allow Sir Wilfrid no excuse for further postponement they sacrificed the right of the Province and agreed to the extension as proposed.

They said to Sir Wilfrid: "We are willing to have our public domain like Ontario and Quebec." This the premier said was out of the question. Then they said, give us financial equality with Saskatchewan and Alberta. "What more could we have offered?" asked Mr. Rogers. "Could anything have been fairer?"

#### FELT RESPONSIBILITY.

Mr. Rogers said: Mr. Speaker, seldom or perhaps never have I undertaken to ask the time and the attention of the hon. members of this House when I more keenly felt the responsibility which rested upon me than that which I feel at the present moment. (Hear, hear.) It is a responsibility, Mr. Speaker, in that we are again in this Legislature, once more called upon to discuss a question which, to my mind, is by far the most paramount question that has ever been, or probably ever will be, discussed on the floor of this Legislature. Important, Mr. Speaker, in the first place because of the fact that we are making an honest and earnest endeavor for a position of equality, not alone for the present day, not alone for the people of Manitoba today, but we are making an appeal for a position of equality for our children and for generations that are to come after them. (Hear, hear.) And, Mr. Speaker, in that appeal we simply plead for a position of equality with the family of provinces that form the confederation of our Dominion, and in so doing we believe we are undertaking to perform our duty to ourselves, our duty to our country, and our duty to the people that are to come after us. Now, Mr. Speaker, this is no new question before this Legislature. I have been here ten years, and I think almost every year we have had a resolution in respect to this matter.

#### SOME RESOLUTIONS.

I remember one of the first resolutions was moved in 1901 and the second in 1902, but I remember most particularly the resolution of

1902, which was moved by the first minister, and was seconded by the then member for Dauphin, Mr. Burrows. In that resolution we laid claim to an extension of our territory, and we laid claim to financial terms and conditions. And, sir, we have been moving resolutions almost without exception every session from that on. I do not know that we had a resolution in 1904, because we had in view a proposed arrangement by which a new province or provinces would likely be formed to the northwest of us, and we felt, and I am sure the people of the Province felt, that that was the time when we should naturally make our appeal for the position for which we are still battling in connection with this matter, and we undertook that in a fair and generous spirit. I want here and now to take exception to the statement of my hon. friend, the leader of the Opposition, the other day, when he undertook to accuse us of not approaching this matter in a fair and businesslike manner. I say that I challenge the leader of the Opposition or any other man living, either in this House or out of it, to put his finger upon one instance where the members of this government, in their official capacity or in any other form, have not been faithful to the trust reposed in them by the people of this Province. (Applause.)

#### FIRST VISIT TO OTTAWA.

The first occasion on which my hon. friend, the attorney-general, and myself went to Ottawa was in 1905. The first words we said when we went into the room of Sir Wilfrid Laurier were: "A fair and just settlement of this question carries with it no political advantage or disadvantage for either political party." The first minister of Canada did us the honor of quoting that statement from his place on the floor of parliament. That is evidence in itself of the spirit of fairness in which we were ready to plead our cause, believing, as we did, it was just and right, and believing, as we did then and as we do now, that we were performing a duty, not for a political party, but a duty to the united province, in respect to the claim we were laying down in regard to our rights. (Applause.) Now, Mr. Speaker, that conference took place, and we were told by the first minister of Canada that in three or four days he would be able to give us a definite answer. My hon. friend, the attorney-general, and myself waited three or four days, and we got no answer, and we addressed a very important letter to the first minister of Canada in this connection. And what did we say then, when everything was fresh in our memory? We wrote a letter from Russell House to Sir Wilfrid.

"Russell House, Ottawa,  
"Februáry 23, 1905.

"Sir,—As we find it necessary to leave Ottawa tomorrow, we desire to refer to our interview of Friday, the 18th, respecting Manitoba's claim for the extension of her boundaries westward and northward, when you were good enough to suggest that if we remain here for three or four days, you would be then in a position to give us an answer respecting the same. Up to the present time, however, we have

heard nothing from you, excepting your statement in parliament on Tuesday last, when introducing your autonomy bills, which we presume represents your fixed and final decision as to our western boundary.

"In view of Manitoba's strong claims as presented to you in the memorial unanimously passed by our Legislature and supported and supplemented in our interview, we must enter on behalf of the Province our firm protest against your decision in refusing to grant the prayer of our request for the extension of our boundaries westward, and exceedingly regret that apparently local considerations have deprived Manitoba of what she rightfully regards as a most just claim.

"Respecting extension, we most respectfully urge upon you that this should engage your consideration and attention during the present session. We, of course, most emphatically deny the right of Quebec and Ontario having anything to say regarding the extension of our boundaries northward in the Keewatin district to the shores of the Hudson Bay. This district has been so long attached to Manitoba that it is impossible to conceive how Quebec and Ontario, who already have their boundaries north of James Bay, could advance any claim worthy of consideration that would necessitate delay in attaching this territory immediately to our Province. We regard this as exclusively a matter of settlement between your government and Manitoba.

"We sincerely hope that, upon further consideration, you may see your way clear to grant the request we make on behalf of the united Province.

"Yours faithfully,

"R. ROGERS,

"C. H. CAMPBELL."

You will remember at that time we were making a case as best we could for the extension of the boundaries westward in the belief there would only be formed one province instead of two. Now, Mr. Speaker, what was our position? We had a special messenger who took the letter and delivered it at the house of Sir Wilfrid, and, Sir, we heard from the first minister from his place in the House that he did not remember receiving the first letter. He would ask his secretary to look it up, but he could not remember anything about it. The messenger was called and testified to having delivered the letter at the house. The first minister said it did not matter whether it was received or not, it did not add anything to the case we had made in respect to our claim to the territory. He still continued to maintain there should be a conference with representatives of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario to take into consideration the extension of our Province. A conference was subsequently held at which were representatives from Ontario and Saskatchewan and representatives from this Government. We pleaded

our case again there and presented our views, and we did then hope that something would be done.

#### TWO YEARS' DELAY.

Now, that was about the year 1907. Two years had elapsed before it was found possible to get this meeting promised in 1905 by the first minister of Canada. You will grant, Mr. Speaker, that was moving rather slowly. What followed after that meeting? When the speech from the throne was prepared in 1907 we had a declaration in that speech that a bill would be brought in for the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba, and I hold here a copy of the speech from the throne, which tells that "Among other things to be submitted to you is a bill for the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba." That was on the twenty-eighth day of November, 1907. Time went on and no bill was introduced, and on the eighth of January the matter was again brought up on the floor of parliament by a question of privilege on the part of Mr. R. L. Borden. You will find it on pages 936 and 937 of the debates, House of Commons.

#### WHAT HANSARD SHOWS.

MR. R. L. BORDEN (Carlton, Ont.)—Before the orders for the day are called, I desire to enquire of the government whether any steps have been taken to obtain the consent of the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba to the proposed extension of the boundaries of that Province. The prime minister (Sir Wilfrid Laurier) will remember that a bill to that effect has been promised. He will recollect, also, no doubt, that under the amendment to the British North America Act, the consent of the Province by its Legislature is necessary. Has this proposed extension been communicated to the executive of the Province of Manitoba, and have any steps been taken to obtain the consent of the Legislature of that Province to the proposed extension?

RT. HON. SIR WILFRID LAURIER (prime minister)—I do not believe that the government has to take any such steps at this moment to secure the consent of the Legislature of Manitoba. In introducing this legislation we are only complying with the request made by the Legislature of Manitoba itself to have the boundaries of the Province extended. Of course, when our bill is prepared and when the prayer has been looked into and accepted in whole or in part, as the case may be, it will be for the Province of Manitoba to say whether or not it accepts this legislation.

MR. R. L. BORDEN—I would like to understand the right honorable gentleman (Sir Wilfrid Laurier). The proposition as I understand it is that the extension of the boundaries is to be provided by act of this parliament, leaving it to the Legislature of Manitoba to give or withhold its assent as it may be advised?

SIR WILFRID LAURIER—I understand the matter in this way: The Legislature of Manitoba has asked to have the boundaries of the Province extended. It has made a very large and sweeping demand. Whether the whole extent of that demand can be granted or not is a matter which may come up for discussion later on. If we agree with the whole of the demand made by the Legislature of Manitoba, I suppose there will be no question as to securing the consent of that Legislature. But the Province of Ontario has made a strong protest against the granting of the whole demand of Manitoba; and the government has to decide whether it will accept the prayer of the Province of Ontario or that of the Province of Manitoba, or whether it will consider both. The bill will settle that question and it will be for the Province of Manitoba to say whether or not it agrees to that bill.

#### A DISTINCT PLEDGE.

Now that was on January 8, 1908, when we had the distinct pledge of the first minister of Canada that a bill would be introduced. No such bill has ever been introduced to this day. No bill, I say, has been introduced, notwithstanding that pledge, and notwithstanding that promise. Now, Sir, what did happen was that a resolution was introduced. I need not remind you that a resolution is a very different thing to a bill, an entirely different thing. A bill, as you know, if introduced into the parliament of Canada, or any other parliament, means the basing of an Act and a solemn promise of this intention. A resolution only means giving it consideration.

#### SAMPLE OF QUIBBLING.

That is a sample of the quibbling form in which day after day from 1905, when we first made our case, down to the present day, we have been treated with by the government of Ottawa in respect to this matter. That resolution was passed on July 13, 1908, and no further move was taken by the first minister of Canada until February 26, 1909, and he was likely to be cross-questioned for his dilatory action in regard to the treatment being meted out to Manitoba.

We then had the following letter addressed to Mr. Roblin:

OTTAWA, February 26, 1909.

Dear Mr. Roblin—

I have the honor to enclose the draft of a bill for the extension of the boundaries of the Province of Manitoba. This bill is on the line of the resolutions adopted by the House of Commons at its last session. The amount of allowance to be paid to the Province in lieu of lands has been left in blank. According to the aforesaid resolution of the House

of Commons, this amount should be fixed by negotiation between the Dominion government and the government of the Province.

We will be happy to confer with you at any time that may be convenient to yourself and to your government.

Yours respectfully,  
(Signed) WILFRID LAURIER.

The Hon. R. P. Roblin, Prime Minister's Office, Winnipeg.

#### THE DRAFT BILL.

Now, Mr. Speaker, accompanying that letter was this bill about which we have heard so much, and I want all the members of this House and the people of this country to understand what it is. I have heard it stated up and down the country that the bill was sent here by Sir Wilfrid Laurier to be submitted to the Legislature in order that we should approve of the bill. What are the facts? The bill which was sent here was in blank, and was a bill to be presented to and enacted by the parliament of Canada, and not by this Legislature at all. (Applause.) That is a sample of the kind of misrepresentation of hon. gentlemen opposite and their friends going up and down the country and making statements that are not correct. I will read the bill:

#### AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR AN INCREASE OF THE LIMITS OF THE PROVINCE OF MANITOBA.

Whereas a petition has been presented to the House of Commons on behalf of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of Manitoba, praying amongst other things for an extension of the boundaries of that Province northward and eastward and for an additional subsidy to the Province in lieu of the ownership of the public lands in the territory to be added to the Province by such extension, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of such petition to the extent and in the manner provided in the enactments hereinafter contained; therefore His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—

#### BOUNDARIES OF THE PROVINCE.

1. Upon the Legislature of the Province of Manitoba consenting thereto, the limits of the said Province shall be increased so that the northern boundary of the Province shall be the sixtieth parallel of north latitude; the western boundary shall be the present eastern boundary of the Province of Saskatchewan; the eastern boundary shall be the present eastern boundary of the Province to the northeast corner thereof, thence in a straight line to the most easterly point of Island Lake, and thence in a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth

meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of Hudson Bay, thence following the said shore line to its intersection with the sixtieth parallel.

2. And whereas in accordance with the provisions of the Act establishing the Province of Manitoba the ungranted lands of the Crown in the territory so to be added to the said Province will continue to be administered by the government of Canada for the purposes of Canada and the Province will not have such lands as a source of revenue, it is further enacted that there shall be paid by Canada to the Province an increased allowance by money payment to an amount of

3. This Act shall come into force upon a date to be fixed by proclamation of the Governor-in-Council.

#### THE FAMOUS BILL.

Now, sir, this is the famous bill that has been held up and down the country as the bill that should have been submitted to this Legislature for its assent. That is the bill we are condemned for not having brought before this Legislature. I would like to draw your attention to a statement in that bill as proposed, and I do this for the purpose of showing you the difference between my hon. friends opposite and the Parliament of Canada. It is in the recollection of every hon. gentleman in this House that the hon. leader of the Opposition stood up and said if we ask for our lands we could get them. Was he speaking for himself or the first minister of Canada, because it is important.

MR. NORRIS—I want it distinctly understood I said it was my opinion that it would be given. (Cheers.)

HON. R. ROGERS—We take it as your opinion. I would like to know what the opinion of the leader of the Opposition is worth as compared with the proposed bill prepared by the first minister of Canada to be introduced into parliament when he tells us in the bill "The territory so to be added to the said Province will continue to be administered by the government of Canada for the purposes of Canada and the Province will not have such lands as a source of revenue."

#### AS LIKE AS TWO PEAS.

His opinion set up as against the government of Canada is like the story of his former leader. When before the electors a few years ago Mr. Edward Brown told a story something the same up and down the country. In his election address published in 1907 he said the extension would take place before the close of the present session of parliament. We are having this statement emanate from hon. gentlemen opposite time after time, and it is necessary we should review the facts so that the people of the country will understand the difficulties

which we have in getting the extension we want. Now, then, Mr. Speaker, after that we had a letter which I quoted in the amendment I have proposed, from Sir Wilfrid, in which an invitation was given to the government of this Province, which was accepted, and my hon. friend the attorney-general and myself went to Ottawa. We had a telegram to say he would see us on March 12. On that invitation the attorney-general and myself went to Ottawa to renew the negotiations. I defy any man living to point to one case in which we approached the subject in any spirit but one of fairness to the Province of Manitoba. We approached it on this occasion as on previous occasions, pointing out to Sir Wilfrid that we did not desire, nor did we want, nor do we want now, any political advantage to either political party, but as citizens of Manitoba we wanted our rights, and for this result we are going to continue to do battle until we succeed in that battle. (Applause.)

#### COULD NOT GET WHAT WAS WANTED.

We were told by Sir Wilfrid we could not get what we wanted. We went there with a unanimous resolution of this Legislature asking for an extension of our territory upon certain lines, but, sir, we were told we could not have that extension. And why, Mr. Speaker? Sir Wilfrid told us we could not have it because he had arranged with a caucus of the Liberal members of this Province we were not to have the territory which the Legislature had asked for, and we could only get what was laid down in the resolution passed by the House of Commons of Canada. If we had wanted to approach the question in a spirit of unfairness, if we had any desire to arouse public feeling, was not that the place for us to have taken advantage of the opportunity along that line? Would it not have been becoming of us to resent the action of the federal Liberal members in the parliament of Canada interfering with a question that belonged entirely to the Legislature of this Province?

#### SPIRIT OF FAIRNESS.

We did not do so; we were ready to overlook anything of that sort, approaching the question with a spirit of fairness and a desire that we might succeed in the best interests of the Province of Manitoba, which we represented. (Applause.) We also had an opportunity of taking advantage, if we wanted, in the action of the government in refusing to grant us the extension of territory which we asked for, because, Mr. Speaker, the territory which we are asking for to the east and north of Manitoba belonged to us by the Act of Parliament of Canada since the year 1881, and, sir, that territory was upheld to us by the judicial committee of the privy council of England. We have been pressing our claim for years, and I venture to say today that if we had followed the claim up in the courts of the country we could have established it as against the Parliament of Canada. But we were so anxious to be fair, and that no matter of this kind should en-



ter into the question of Manitoba getting an extension of her boundaries that we did not take such a course. We were willing to forego that in the interests of the Province of Manitoba. (Applause.)

#### LAURIER'S ANSWER.

We discussed this matter on our first interview when we called on Sir Wilfrid Laurier and he told us that there was no use our asking for an extension of territory along the lines proposed by resolution of this Legislature, because that matter had already been threshed out between himself and the Liberal members representing the Province at Ottawa. He told us we had better take two or three days to consider the matter and an appointment was made for two or three days later.

We went away and gave the matter the very fullest consideration, and when we went back according to appointment a few days later and entered Sir Wilfrid Laurier's room, we were at once asked what decision we had arrived at and we gave the answer to Sir Wilfrid Laurier that if it were going to settle this matter we were willing to accept the territory as far as we represented the Province of Manitoba at all events, if it were going to bring about a final and fixed settlement of this whole question. What more fair position than that could we have adopted?

#### NOTHING IN THE WAY.

We had not let anything stand in our way and when that difficulty had been removed the next question to be discussed was the terms and conditions. It was here, at this very moment when we were discussing or approaching the discussion of the terms and conditions that Sir Wilfrid Laurier suggested that this territory northwest of Manitoba was not costing the Dominion more than about fifteen hundred dollars a year to maintain at the present time and that he would give us ten thousand dollars a year, which he thought would be a fair basis, a fair arrangement. We treated this suggestion rather lightly at the time. We laughed about it and went on pleading our case for equality and we were told by Sir Wilfrid then that it was impossible for him to consider the question of giving equality with the territory to the west of us, giving us the reasons which he had given the Parliament of Canada from his place in the House.

We pleaded our case as well as we could but notwithstanding, he continued to maintain that it was impossible for him to give us that position which we were claiming. We didn't even then treat this matter very seriously and it was not until next day, or two days after, when we found the Toronto Globe taking this matter up, that we began to think seriously of the position taken by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in respect to this matter.

## QUOTATION FROM GLOBE.

I quote from the Toronto Globe of March 23:—

"Ottawa, March 23.—The Manitoba ministers, Messrs. Rogers and Campbell, had another interview with Sir Wilfrid Laurier today relative to the Province's demands for better financial terms in connection with the proposed extension of the Provincial boundaries. Sir Wilfrid said the government could not agree to Manitoba's request for an extra cash subsidy similar to that given Alberta and Saskatchewan, and that the bargain made when Manitoba entered confederation, with reference to the ownership of crown lands, should not now be revised. Manitoba, Sir Wilfrid maintained, could not after the lapse of so many years, be considered as being on the same footing as the new provinces just starting in to administer vast territories with all the incidental expense of organization, to maintain law and order, build roads, etc. But in lieu of granting Manitoba the ownership of crown lands in the territory to be annexed to the Province, he said the government was willing to allow an annual cash subsidy sufficient to cover the cost of administration of the new territory. At present the enforcement of law and order in the portion of Keewatin to be allocated to Manitoba only costs about \$1,000 or \$1,500 a year.

"GRANT OF \$10,000.

"It is understood the Dominion government is willing to make an annual grant of \$10,000 or any reasonable amount necessary to cover all the expense to the Province in this connection. The Manitoba ministers are, however, still dissatisfied with the government's terms, and are holding out for the full measure of their demands for an annual cash subsidy as set forth in the memorial presented to the federal government last year. They are evidently desirous of keeping their 'grievance' for campaign purposes when the Roblin government next appeals to the electors.

"In view of the refusal of Manitoba to accept the terms offered by the government, it is practically certain that there will be no bill brought down this session to extend the provincial boundaries.

"Hon. Messrs. Rogers and Campbell left tonight for Winnipeg."

## OTTAWA'S GRIEVANCE.

Now, if it is to be made a grievance because we did not accept ten thousand dollars from the Dominion government in lieu of public lands and in final settlement of the question of the extension of boundaries, I would ask, in the name of common decency, is there a man in this House who would ask us to be guilty of insulting this fair Province of Manitoba by entertaining such an offer as that? The Globe says that after refusing this offer we left for Winnipeg. I ask this House and the people of this country if we were not justified in leaving for Winnipeg

after being told by Sir Wilfrid Laurier that there was no object to be gained by continuing the discussion of this matter, when we had been told that we could get nothing more from him, although all the time that we were there we had pressed him to name some reasonable terms and conditions upon which we could reach a settlement of this question of the extension of our boundaries. We were willing then and we are willing now, and I am sure that this Legislature is willing to accept these lands. My friend, the leader of the Opposition, suggests that we should take time and go up and examine these lands and see if the lands are any good, and then, if we decide to accept them, he tells us that, in his opinion, we could get them. I am sure that the evidence I have submitted, if it is not sufficient to convince the leader of the Opposition, will at any rate suffice to convince this House and this country that it was impossible to obtain these lands.

But we were willing to be fair. We said to Sir Wilfrid, you are bringing in and have passed by the Parliament of Canada a resolution in which you fix the boundaries of Manitoba and Ontario and Quebec. Now, in that resolution you provide that we are not to have our crown lands, and in the same resolution you provide that Ontario is to have her crown lands, and Quebec is to have her crown lands. Perhaps the attorney-general and myself had a little more confidence in the great resources of this northern country than have our friends opposite.

#### WANT EQUAL TERMS.

We said, if you don't want to give equality of treatment in cash with the provinces to the west, then give us equality of treatment under the very resolution under which you are giving an extension of the boundaries of Quebec and Ontario and we will accept this and go home and say we are satisfied, and we will fight it out in the Province in which we live and will say that Sir Wilfrid Laurier dealt fairly with the people of Manitoba. That is what we offered. We were willing to take this risk and come back to this Legislature asking for their endorsement and yet we are accused today and held up as trying to keep this question alive as a political football. I would ask the members of this House and every honest citizen in this country what more it would have been possible for us to offer on behalf of Manitoba. We approached this question in a position of fairness. We were willing to do anything that was reasonable and we have never refused anything that was fair, but we have refused this offer of ten thousand dollars. This is the position we occupy before the people of this country at the present time.

## LAURIER'S LAST LETTER.

Our friends seem to take delight in saying that Sir Wilfrid in one of his last letters, I think the last one we have received from him, suggests that he is ready to approach this question in a fair and generous spirit. In this letter Sir Wilfrid says, "I have only to add that we are ready to re-open negotiations with the full assurance on our part that we are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit." If this was a new statement on the part of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, it might carry some hope to the people of this country, but when we look back we remember that when the attorney-general and myself were in Ottawa in 1905 he said, wait three or four days and we would probably get something. We have waited nearly five years, nearly six, and have got nothing yet. And a little later on, a minute of council passed dealing with this question was quoted by Sir Wilfrid in parliament in reply to Mr. Greenway. This minute of council which was passed in March, 1905, was read in the House, June 21, 1906. It read:—

"The committee therefore recommend that after a convenient date after the formation of the new Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan the request of the Province of Manitoba for an extension northwards be taken up with the object of coming to a speedy conclusion."

## EXPECTED LITTLE DELAY.

The people of this country felt that probably a little delay was not to be regarded as a ground of complaint as against the government at Ottawa and little notice was taken along these lines. Then again in 1906, when my good old friend, Mr. Greenway, occupied a place on the floor of the Parliament of Canada, he brought up the matter and asked a question in regard to the extension of Manitoba's boundaries, and Sir Wilfrid Laurier said in part that the pretensions of the three provinces were not in harmony and therefore it became the duty of the Dominion of Canada to endeavor to find a solution to this problem so as to gratify the legitimate aspirations of the Province of Manitoba without doing an injustice to the other provinces.

"This," he said, "is a task of some delicacy and of a great deal of importance. It is now engaging the attention of the government, and it is hoped that a solution will be found and given to the House at an early date, but it is impossible at the present time to specify exactly what date."

## RECENT CORRESPONDENCE.

There is another hope that was held out at that time, but no action has been taken from that day to this. Then, again, we have the letter that I have just quoted from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, which my friends opposite like to quote, in which he says he will approach the matter in a fair and generous spirit. We wrote him on January 8th last a letter which I have already read in the amendment that I have moved, and one paragraph of that letter said:

"I cannot see why you should hesitate to name such terms and conditions of your parliament. This would only be following the same form as you adopted in the case of the allocating of our boundaries. You have our proposition, approved by resolution of our Legislature. Now, then, if this is not satisfactory to you, let us have your alternative proposition, which I will at once submit the same to our Legislature, which meets about the first of February."

Now, that letter is about two months old, and we have not had an answer to it, not even an acknowledgment. That is another sample, another evidence of how we have been treated, and yet my honorable friends opposite say that we are wrong to make this a matter of complaint.

#### LAURIER'S SPEECH.

I would like to read also a statement from a speech delivered by Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself when introducing this resolution, upon these very terms and conditions. We have been asking for these terms and conditions from 1905 to the present time and we have been unable to get an answer. In the course of the statement made by Sir Wilfrid himself in the House on July 13, 1908, he said:—

"Therefore we are disposed to think, and we submit and commend it to the House, that Manitoba should receive compensation in lieu of the public lands, but what is to be the amount of that compensation, whether or not we should adopt the basis which was adopted for Saskatchewan and Alberta, is a question which at this time I do not think it would be fitting to discuss. The government simply ask that the matter be left for negotiation between the Dominion government and the Manitoba government. I have looked at the claims of Manitoba at the present time. I have my own opinion of them, but I do not think it would be advisable today to express this opinion. I think it is preferable to leave the matter at large, so that the negotiations which are to take place between Manitoba and the Dominion should not be prejudiced in any way by any opinion I might express at this moment. We simply declare that we are prepared to meet the Province in a fair spirit."

#### ONLY ONE OFFER.

That was in 1908, nearly two years ago, but we have not been able to get anything from Sir Wilfrid Laurier yet save and except this offer of ten thousand dollars. And yet we are accused of attempting to make use of this question as a political football.

I am sure the House will agree with me that lots of time has been given, that we have not pressed the matter unduly and that we have taken every step possible in order that the matter should be approached in a fair and reasonable spirit. And it is strange to say that notwithstanding the fact that it has been impossible to get a single solitary statement except what I have described from Sir Wilfrid Laurier, yet

no man has had the courage, not even the leader of the Dominion government, to say why we do not get this extension. We have not their confidence, and it is impossible for us to tell.

T. H. JOHNSON—Haven't you told on some occasions why we could not get it?

#### JOB FOR OPPOSITION.

MR. ROGERS—No sir. Because it is not my place to tell. I have pointed out the constitutional limitations placed upon this territory by the government at Ottawa and it was for honorable gentlemen opposite to find out and tell the people of the country, if they dare, what the conditions are and what has caused the delay.

MR. NORRIS—Did the honorable gentleman or any member of the government ever say that the school question was the reason that the boundaries were not extended?

MR. ROGERS—We have, I repeat, the constitutional limitation with respect to the school question established in this territory by the Dominion government as I have already explained to this House on more than one occasion, and I am sure my honorable friend will understand that.

#### NORRIS MAKES EXCUSES.

If we have been disappointed with the treatment we received with regard to the extension of our boundaries, I want to say we were even more disappointed in the statement of my honorable friend the leader of the Opposition the other day, because we found for the first time in this Province an individual undertaking to find excuses and find reasons why we should not get our extension. He tells us that if we would accept his resolution it would mean the breaking of a deadlock, but if this Legislature were to accept that resolution of his it would really mean that it would provide for Sir Wilfrid Laurier the means of a continuous deadlock between Manitoba and the government of Canada. I believe that the resolution brought in by the honorable gentleman was framed for that purpose. If you will read that resolution you will see the ridiculous position that it takes. It goes on to say:—

“Therefore, be it resolved, that this Legislature accepts the territory thus described in the resolution of the House of Commons of July 13, 1908, and requests the Dominion parliament to enact such legislation at the current session as may be necessary thus to enlarge the boundaries of Manitoba. Such enlargement to be without prejudice to Manitoba's claim for such re-adjustment of its financial arrangements with the Dominion as shall equip it suitably to meet and discharge the obligations and requirements of the enlarged Province.”

#### IN A NICE TRAP.

I must say at any rate for the honorable gentlemen opposite that this resolution of theirs has got them into a very nice trap. They are either in a very nice trap or they have something very serious to answer for to the people of the country. They are willing here in the

House for the first time to go further to find excuses for the government at Ottawa than the government themselves would dare attempt to go. They ask this House to consent to the boundaries as laid down by that resolution and leave the settlement of financial terms to a later date. The government at Ottawa would not itself undertake to make such a suggestion because it knows it would be impossible for such a course to be adopted. Sir Wilfrid Laurier tells us so in the very speech in which he introduces his resolution in the Parliament of Canada that under the British North America Act it would be impossible to have an extension without an agreement as to terms and conditions as would be the case if we were to accept the resolution of my honorable friends opposite.

#### WHAT LAURIER SAID.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, speaking of the extension of the boundaries of the provinces, used these words in the House of Commons:—

“This course was contemplated, I may say, by the fathers of confederation, because in the British North America Act of 1871, suggested by this parliament and the government of that day and passed by the British parliament, provision was made not only for the creation of new provinces out of the general Dominion territory, but also for the extension of the provinces now existing. I call the attention of the House to Section 3 of that Act, which reads as follows:—

“‘The parliament of Canada may from time to time, with the consent of the Legislature of any province of the said Dominion, increase, diminish, or otherwise alter the limits of such province, upon such terms and conditions as may be agreed to by the said Legislature.’”

There is the British North America Act, and under it, it is impossible for us to get our extension, and in getting that extension we are to have considered the terms and conditions, and yet our friends are willing to throw the terms and conditions to the winds, willing to fly in the face of the Imperial parliament in finding excuses. Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself was more generous than that in the resolution which he introduced at that time, and I would like to quote a few words of that resolution, because it would be interesting to my honorable friends to understand something more about this than they seem to understand at present.

#### THE RESOLUTION.

The resolution says:—

“And whereas, notwithstanding the extension of territory above described, the ungranted lands of the Crown in the territory so to be added to the said Province will still continue to be administered by the government of Canada for the purposes of the Dominion, and the said Province will not have the public land as a source of revenue.

“It is just and equitable to recognize the increased cost of civil government which such extension of boundary will occasion to the Province, and in view of the premises, to make to the said Province an

increased allowance by money payment, the amount of which should be the subject of negotiation between the government of Canada and the government of Manitoba."

On the invitation of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, we went to Ottawa to plead our case, and the only answer we got was what I have already repeated to this House, and that the amount of ten thousand dollars was the only thing we could expect as a money grant. That is the position in which my honorable friends opposite find themselves placed. They are not only by their resolution flying in the face of the Act of the Imperial parliament, but they are flying even in the face of the resolution of the House of Commons of Canada, which deals not only with the extension, but with the terms and conditions as provided by the Imperial Act under which this extension can be granted.

#### SHOULD APOLOGIZE.

When my honorable friends understand this question, as I feel sure they understand it now, because I gathered that the leader of the Opposition was speaking for those who sat around him—when, I say, they understand this question I hope that one after the other they will rise in their places and apologize in this House and apologize to the people of this country for making an unpardonable mistake, for having tried to provide a means by which Manitoba might be forever deprived of her rights in connection with the extension of her boundaries.

It is due to the people and to this House that such an apology should be made. If they will not make that apology the time has arrived when they should be taken more seriously. The time has arrived when notice should be taken of statements made outside of this House, when a warning should be given to the people of this country with regard to a lot of individuals who are in the employ of the government at Ottawa.

We have had enough of interference in the affairs of this Province by employees of the Dominion government. The member for La Verandrye told us the other day of a candidate and his brother who are drawing twenty-five or twenty-six thousand dollars from the Dominion treasury and both of them are candidates for election honors in Manitoba. That is the sort of thing we have to fight against in doing battle for the rights of Manitoba. I do not want to confine my warning to persons who are outside of this House, because there are others here who are in the same position and they will have to accept the responsibility.

#### SERIOUS POSITION.

The position of Manitoba is a serious one. If we are going to be made to do battle of this kind, then it becomes the duty of the government on behalf of the free people of this Province to protect ourselves against such attacks. If that is to continue, it may be my duty



before the close of this session to ask the legislature for such an amendment to the Election Act of this Province that no individual in Manitoba who is employed and is receiving money from the government at Ottawa can be a candidate in any election that takes place in this Province. That may be the condition, and if I do not introduce such legislation before the close of this Legislature it will only be because of the great confidence which I have in the electorate of Manitoba, the great confidence I have in the honor and intelligence of the electorate in every constituency of this Province, and I do not believe that any constituency which understands the situation will elect a man to come down here to prevent Manitoba from getting her just rights. If such legislation is not introduced it will only be, I repeat, because of the great confidence we have in the intelligence of the electors of Manitoba.

#### PRESS RESPONSIBLE.

Let me say further, that the individual candidates are not the only ones that are responsible. We have a press in Manitoba that is responsible. We have a press that two years ago was apparently willing and did give us a certain amount of support in our efforts for justice in this Province. When I last had the privilege of presenting to this House a similar resolution on January 23, 1907, my first words were words of congratulation to the Free Press in that they had made the statement clearly and distinctly that they would support the position taken by this government in our interview at Ottawa that year. Let me quote the statement from the Free Press:—

#### “EXTENSION OF THE BOUNDARY.

“The calmness with which the Manitoba public has received Mr. Roblin’s boundary manifesto is not, of course, due to any indifference to the question; but it is entirely owing to their belief that the matter is on a fair way of adjustment along lines that will meet the just requirements of Manitoba.

“The electors of Manitoba, without a single exception, we believe, expect the Dominion government, now that the question of boundary extension is up for settlement, to extend this Province to Hudson Bay, giving it an area that will make it the equal in size of the other large provinces. Port Churchill, which is the natural port for Western Canada, must be included in this area. Further, this area must come to us without any constitutional limitations or stipulations whatever.

“If the people of Manitoba thought that these requests, which are entirely reasonable, were to be refused there would be a ferment throughout the Province. If they remain calm it is because they have confidence that Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues will treat the Province fairly.

"There is no desire to make it a ground of offense that the government has taken a fortnight to consider the matter; but there should be no unreasonable delay in reaching a decision. Within a month from the date of the conference, which was held on November 12, the judgment of the federal authorities should be known. The Manitoba members of parliament now in session will doubtless press for a decision at the earliest possible date."

"A denial of the just demands of Manitoba would be a serious matter politically, for the Dominion government, and putting it upon the lowest grounds, that of political expediency, Sir Wilfrid will note the advantage of dealing fairly with this Province. But it is not the political side of the matter which will influence the premier half so much as the equitable claim of this Province for such enlargement as shall insure her position as an important part of confederation.

"It will be advantageous for the federal authorities to treat Manitoba generously; and the transferring to the Province of the public lands in the area to be added to Manitoba would be a statesmanlike act."

#### WORDS OF CONGRATULATION.

My first words in this House when I presented a similar resolution on that twenty-third of January, were words of congratulation that we were unanimous and united in doing battle for our rights, but from that day until the present moment the Free Press has never uttered a word of commendation in respect to this matter. It is a strange coincidence to which I would like to call attention. I hold in my hand the auditor-general's report for 1906-7 and what do we find happens to the Free Press at the hands of the government at Ottawa?

In two payments that year, and I leave the House and country to draw their own conclusions, we find that the Free Press received \$36,836.09 from the government at Ottawa. After this explanation of why the Free Press has been silent we must believe that the condition is more serious than we had thought it to be. If that is the manner in which the battle is to be carried on, if the money of the Dominion of Canada is to be used in this lavish manner so that Manitoba may be deprived of her liberties and of justice and right, the time has arrived when there should be an uprising on the part of the people of this Province.

We have pleaded our cause for equality and justice. We will continue to plead that cause. We will plead it even with the hirelings of the Dominion government in the hope they may feel they are doing injustice to their adopted province by trying to serve two masters and are thus betraying that fair province that has received and sheltered them.

We will continue to plead in the hope that the day is not far distant when this Province will succeed in obtaining justice and will be placed upon a footing of equality with the sister provinces that form the confederation of the great Dominion of Canada.

## MR. ROGERS' AMENDMENT.

The following is the amendment to Mr. Norris' resolution, which was moved by Hon. Robert Rogers:—

That all the words after "Whereas" in the first line be struck out and the following substituted therefor:—

By an Act of the Parliament of Canada, passed in the year 1881, and under the decision of the judicial committee of the privy council, a large tract or area of territory lying to the east of the present eastern boundary of Manitoba and north of the Albany river, comprising approximately 41,000 square miles, was determined as belonging to, and as a portion of, the Province of Manitoba.

And whereas, in the various conferences held between the federal authorities and representatives of this Province, and in the several memorials presented to the Parliament of Canada regarding the claims of the Province for further extension of boundaries, this position has always been maintained.

And whereas the Parliament of Canada, on the thirteenth day of July, 1908, passed a resolution setting forth the territory which the said Parliament was willing to grant or offer to the Province by way of an extension of boundaries, to wit:

The northern boundary to be the sixtieth parallel of latitude; the western boundary to be the present eastern boundary line of the Province of Saskatchewan to the said sixtieth parallel; the eastern boundary to be the present eastern boundary as far north as the northeast corner of the Province, thence on a straight line to the point where the eighty-ninth meridian of west longitude intersects the shore line of the Hudson's Bay.

And whereas the said resolution and the delimitation of territory therein contained, was determined by the said Parliament of Canada without reference to, or consultation with, this House, or the executive members thereof.

And whereas, at a conference held between the federal authorities and representatives of the Province in the month of March, 1909, respecting all and singular, the premises (a report of which has been duly communicated to this House, and is hereinafter set forth), it was proposed by the said representatives of the Province that the Province would be willing to surrender its right to the territory granted to it in the year 1881, as aforesaid, and accept the territory set forth in the said resolution of the Parliament of Canada of the thirteenth day of July, 1908, hereinbefore set forth, upon satisfactory terms being given to the Province.

And whereas the said report of the representatives of this Province, hereinbefore referred to, is as follows:—

"We, the undersigned, appointed to represent the executive of the Province of Manitoba at the conference with the federal government, report as follows:—

Pursuant to an appointment made by the Right Hon. Sir Wilfrid Laurier, we met in conference at his office on Friday, March 12, 1909, Hon. W. S. Fielding also being present, representing the federal government.

Sir Wilfrid suggested that the first thing necessary for us to consider would be the resolution of the House of Commons in respect to the allocation of our boundaries. We urged the position taken by the government and the Legislative Assembly of this Province, pointing out that this allocation was depriving Manitoba of a large territory which had already been given to us by an Act of the Parliament of Canada, passed in 1881, and afterwards confirmed by the judicial committee of privy council, and that it was not as large as the government and the Legislative Assembly of this Province thought fair and equitable.

Sir Wilfrid then stated that he could not and would not make any change in this resolution of the House of Commons, delimiting the area to be given to us, in view of the fact that it was an arrangement made between the Liberal members in the House of Commons from Manitoba and himself before being introduced into the House of Commons, and was, therefore, unchangeable, nor would he discuss the merits of a larger area as urged by us.

At this point, it being one o'clock, Sir Wilfrid proposed that we adjourn until the sixteenth, in order that we might consider this first essential of the conference, viz.: The settlement of the territory to be added.

On Tuesday, March 16, Sir Wilfrid being indisposed, the conference was further postponed, and it was not resumed until March 19.

On reassembling on that date, your delegates, believing that the refusal of the Parliament of Canada might afford some reason for further delay in the settlement of the matter under consideration, accepted the area so suggested by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the hope that by so doing we would have removed every obstacle that we considered could be raised against the settlement of the whole question.

The allocation of the territory thus being disposed of, we proceeded to discuss the financial terms that ought to be given this Province. We presented the memorandum of the Legislative Assembly of this Province, which in a word was to the effect that we simply asked for a position of equality in respect to financial terms with our sister provinces to the west—the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

To this Sir Wilfrid most strenuously objected, claiming that we were not entitled to similar treatment. We then pointed out to him that inasmuch as he had determined the territory and offered the same by resolution, it was incumbent on him to suggest the financial terms and we pressed him to name what he considered would be adequate compensation and proper financial terms, when he suggested the amount of ten thousand dollars a year, which amount, of course, we regarded as ridiculously absurd. We strongly urged upon him to give us some reasonable definite statement that we could submit to the Government and the Legislature of this Province for their rejection or approval, but he made no other suggestion than the one indicated above.

The discussion continued, and we then made the alternative offer of accepting equal treatment with Ontario and Quebec along the line of ownership of lands, timber, ore, etc., in the territory to be added, and a like ownership of the undisposed of crown lands in Manitoba, that we might have equality of treatment with Ontario and Quebec in this respect, so that if it was more desirable from the Federal point of view to give us equality of position with Ontario and Quebec, we would agree to recommend the same for acceptance to the executive of the Province, and through them to the Legislative Assembly.

The conference then adjourned, to meet again on the 23rd of March, Sir Wilfrid and Hon. Sydney Fisher representing the Federal Government. No further progress was made, Sir Wilfrid still refusing to consider the propositions of equality of treatment, either with Saskatchewan and Alberta or Ontario and Quebec, so set out, nor could we obtain from him any further statement as to the financial allowance he would make to the Province on the addition of the territory.

Sir Wilfrid then informed us that he considered there was no object to be gained by further continuing our conference.

(Signed)

R. ROGERS.

COLIN H. CAMPBELL.

And whereas this House has on numerous occasions affirmed the claim that the Province is entitled, in an extension of boundaries, to equal financial consideration and treatment as that accorded to the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

And whereas at the said conference held in the month of March, 1909, the said representatives of the Province presented the claim of the Province for such equal treatment, and offered to accept such equality of treatment, and finally offered that they would accept either equality of treatment with the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta to the west, or the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east.

And whereas it appears that the said representatives pressed the federal authorities for such an offer of financial terms that could be laid before this House for acceptance, and that the executive of this Province have since the date of the said conference further pressed and urged for an offer from the federal authorities of such a nature that might be laid before this House for acceptance.

And whereas the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier by letter dated December 27, 1909, addressed to the Prime Minister of this Province, said, amongst other things, as follows:

"I have only to add that we are ready to re-open negotiations with the full assurance on our part that we are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit."

And whereas in reply to said letter the Prime Minister of this Province wrote the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier as follows:

WINNIPEG, Jan. 8th, 1910.

My Dear Sir Wilfrid:

I have yours of December 27th, and am indeed pleased to note your expression of assurance that you are anxious to meet Manitoba in a fair and generous spirit. This being the case there should be no difficulty in arriving at an immediate final settlement.

If you will refer to the resolution of our Legislature which you have in your possession, I cannot help feeling that you yourself will agree that Manitoba is not asking for anything but that which is fair and just; for certainly if we did not think our claim to be such we would not be making it.

In regard to our claim we will be entirely satisfied whether you elect to give us a position of equality under the terms and conditions that govern your treatment of the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west, or of Ontario to the east.

I cannot see why you should hesitate to name such terms and conditions by resolution of your Parliament. This would only be following the same form which you adopted in the case of allocating of our boundaries. You have our proposition approved by resolution of our Legislature; now then, if this is not satisfactory to you let us have your alternative proposition when I will at once submit the same to our Legislature which meets about February 1st.

And let me assure you that I will sincerely appreciate your careful consideration of our proposition and with such consideration I am hopeful that you will not suggest any terms that will not mean a position of equality for Manitoba with her sister provinces. Believe me.

My dear Sir Wilfrid,

I am, yours very sincerely,

(SIGNED)

R. P. ROBLIN.

And whereas the delay in settlement of the financial terms is detrimental and injurious to the development of the Province, and further that no good purpose can be served by any further delay; and it is desirable in the best interests of this Province that the said matters should at once be determined and finally settled.

Therefore, be it resolved, that this House assents to and ratifies and confirms the offer made by the representatives of the Province at the conference held with the federal authorities in the month of March last in reference to the aforesaid territory lying immediately east of the Province of Manitoba, hereinbefore set forth, and agrees to accept the territory set forth in the resolution of the Parliament of Canada on the thirteenth day of July, 1908, also hereinbefore set forth, upon satisfactory financial terms being given to the Province by the Federal authorities; and further, that this House is desirous of affirming the position of the right of the Province to equality of treatment either

with the Provinces of Alberta and Saskatchewan to the west, or the Provinces of Ontario and Quebec to the east, and desires to urge upon the Federal authorities that they would, as urged by our delegates, and by the Government of this Province from time to time, immediately announce or offer the financial terms which they are willing to concede to the Province on the addition of the aforesaid territory to the Province of Manitoba, and further affirms its readiness to accept the said territory upon the basis of equality of treatment with either the Provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta, or Ontario and Quebec. And further that this House cannot see any valid reason why the Federal authorities should not at once name the financial terms which they think fair and generous so that the same might be considered forthwith, and an end put to all further controversy respecting the premises.

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## Slander Charges Shattered

Slander charges with absolutely nothing to support them were characteristic of the Opposition's tactics at the last session of the Legislature. One of these was brought forward in the closing hours of the session and dealt with an express parcel received by Hon. Robert Rogers eight years ago. The photograph of the receipt for that express parcel has been in the hands of the local Liberal politicians for all that time. The fact that they themselves had no faith in it and that they did not regard it as having any relation to Mr. Roger's discharge of his public duties is evident from their failure to make use of it. They set it aside for a rainy day, when in default of public issues they would seek to poison the public mind by slanderous insinuations. The closing hours of the last session seemed opportune to two or three Liberal politicians and in a roundabout manner they brought it before the House. Here again they showed that they had no faith in the document for they first got the story printed in the Regina Leader, the organ of the Scott Government, and from this highly tainted source it was foisted on the House by T. H. Johnson of West Winnipeg. No public man, no public journal in Manitoba had the courage to introduce the subject. That duty was relegated to a petty Regina newspaper, from whose columns it was plucked second-hand like scraps from the garbage barrel. It is important to note that T. C. Norris, the Opposition leader, specifically stated on the floor of the House that he made no insinuations. The following statements were made across the floor of the House:

T. C. Norris—I did not make any insinuation before the House at all.

Hon. Robert Rogers—You made an insinuation. You left an implied insinuation that there was something wrong, and I desire to clear it up before the House rises.

Mr. Norris—I did not make any such insinuations.

Not only did Mr. Norris, the Opposition leader, deny that he had made insinuations against Mr. Rogers' public record in this respect but when the House adjourned a number of Liberal members went to the Minister of Public Works and expressed to him their great regret that such slanderous charges should be made against him.

Mr. Rogers himself made a statement to the House, which showed clearly that the express parcel, about which so much noise had been made, reached him in the ordinary course of his private business and that it was not directly or indirectly related to public affairs. Part of Mr. Rogers' statement was as follows:—

Now, Mr. Speaker, in so far as the implied insinuation goes that we have in this statement, I want to say here and now I challenge any hon. gentleman opposite, any man living, to bring me face to face with any one instance where I have made one solitary single sixpence at the expense of the people of the Province I have served for the last paper, but I presume it is a paper belonging to the political castors represented by the hon. gentlemen opposite. I do not know that it is necessary for me in this House, or anywhere else, to say anything more than I have said here to any individual who wishes to bring me to task on this or any other point. I am prepared to meet them at any place and I challenge them now and any individual belonging to the party or people with that class or that party and I will defend myself in the eyes of my fellow-countrymen."—(Applause).

The challenge contained in these manly straightforward words has never been accepted and so completely were the insinuations disproved that only two or three of the most unscrupulous Liberal newspapers in the province have dared to repeat them.

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### **Mission of Manitoba Free Press is to Betray the Farmers**

The electors of Manitoba should know that most of the falsehoods and slanders which have been set afloat against the Roblin Government have had their origin in the office of the Free Press newspaper. The Free Press is maintained for that purpose. It is a newspaper only in so far as it may in that capacity promote the interests of its proprietor, Hon. Clifford Sifton, and the interests of the Liberal party. It employs shady characters to collect material and prepare it for publication and for campaign purposes. The history of the present ownership of the Free Press will show the public the dependence that may be placed in its utterances. Hon. Robert Rogers told the House a few plain truths about the matter at the last session of the Legislature. Here are his words:—



"It ill becomes the Free Press newspaper to attempt to reflect upon the character of any individual of this country. The Attorney-General pointed out the other day, in a clear and direct manner, how the present owners of the Free Press succeeded to the title which they now possess. The Attorney-General might have gone further and dealt with how they completed that title, because the Canadian Pacific interests were not the only people who had a ship. But, sir, the Massey-Harris people, or those connected with them, had also a large interest, and it has been stated before that its transfer to its present ownership in that property prior to the present owners were able to present share in that property prior to the present owners were able to acquire the title to that interest by the influence which they possessed at Ottawa with the Ottawa Government, through which they were able to raise the valuation on agricultural implements to the farmers of this Province, and thereby raised the amount of duty paid by the farmers of Manitoba. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, if we could look into all the facts in connection with the title to the ownership of this villainous sheet, I am satisfied that it would be found that the proper owners of a large interest in the Free Press today would be the farmers of Manitoba, who have had saddled upon them the extra tax as a result of this increased valuation of duty, through which, and by which, it has been stated that the title of the Massey-Harris interest in that organ has been transferred to its present ownership."

To his terrible indictment the Free Press has made no answer. It has remained mute under direct accusation. It has preferred to keep silent and to bear the odium of the charges rather than risk further exposure. A newspaper that dares not defend itself against direct and open accusations cannot fail to come under direct suspicion. The Free Press newspaper is under public suspicion, and the manner in which it came into the ownership of Hon. Clifford Sifton shows the despicable part it is employed to play in the affairs of this Province.

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**Laurier says he Did Not Offer Manitoba Ten Thousand Dollars a Year to Administer the Territory Proposed to be Added to Manitoba. WHAT is He Prepared to Offer? Why Does He Not Tell Manitoba What He WILL Do ?**

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The Liberal platform of 1910, states: "The Liberals of Manitoba believe that a satisfactory adjustment of the boundary question consists in the acceptance of the extension of the boundaries as offered by the Dominion Government, provided it is accompanied by the transfer to this Province of the lands, minerals, timber, fisheries and other material resources of the added territory."

Hon. Mr. Rogers, at the Session of the local Legislature, stated that if the Province was offered these terms by the Dominion they would be accepted without any demand for an increase of cash subsidy.

Why do not the local Grits, therefore, prevail upon Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his Government and make the offer set forth in their platform, or an offer of some kind? Echo answers, Why, and will continue to do so as often as the question is asked.

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**The Policy of the Local Grits In Past Three Years on Boundaries Presents Quite a Contrast, and a Series of Inconsistencies**

**1907 Liberal Platform      Norris' Resolution in      1910 Liberal Platform  
Legislature, 1910.**

That this convention is of the opinion that in order that Manitoba may take her rightful place in confederation it is essential *that the area of the Province be increased to include that part of the territory of Keewatin lying between the northern boundary of Manitoba and the Hudson's Bay and that our financial arrangements with Ottawa should be placed on the same basis as those of Saskatchewan and Alberta.*

That the claims of this Province for a readjustment of its financial arrangement with the Dominion upon a "fair and generous" basis be presented to the Dominion Government by a committee of members of this House to be appointed by the Legislature.

That the Liberals of Manitoba believe that a satisfactory adjustment of the boundary question consists in the acceptance of the extension of the boundaries as offered by the Dominion Government, provided it is accompanied by the transfer to this Province of the lands, minerals, timber, fisheries and other material resources of the added territory."

## THE LIBERAL PLATFORM, (Free Press, Feb. 20, 1907)

### *Finances of the Province—*

That whereas the expenditure of the Province in 1905 was more than double that of 1898, this convention regards the increase as excessive and disproportionate to the revenue of the Province, and believes that the application of business methods would result in better administration of the public service at greatly reduced cost.

### *Provincial Lands—*

That the policy of selling tracts of land to speculators by private sale is to be condemned as injurious to the public interest; that arable land be sold only to actual settlers at reasonable prices, and under conditions imposing settlement duties; and that all other lands be disposed of by public competition.

### *Publicity—*

We regard a policy of publicity in connection with the Government business transactions as desirable, and declare in favor of the publication in the issue of *The Manitoba Gazette* next after the event of the details of all such transactions as the sale of public lands, letting of contracts, the sale of debentures, with such further information as is necessary to inform the taxpayers as to the state and progress of public business.

### *Temperance—*

That the Liberal party place on record its cordial sympathy with the temperance movement as a moral reform, and

Pledges itself, if returned to power, rigidly to enforce the provisions of the law with regard to the liquor traffic, and so to amend the present license act as to make the following provisions effective:

The enactment or repeal of local option by-laws upon the majority of the votes cast by the resident electors of cities, towns, villages and rural municipalities;

The restoration of the municipal franchise to married women who have the necessary qualifications;

The appointment of license inspectors and commissioners who are in hearty sympathy with the enforcement of all provisions of the law;

The licenses shall be issued once a year only, upon application filed on or before a fixed time;

On a petition of 25 per cent. of the resident electors, local option must be submitted to municipal council;

The electors of municipalities shall have the power, not only to pass local option by-laws, but also to limit or reduce the number of licenses in the municipality; and that any municipal council must submit the question to a vote on the petition of 25 per cent. of the resident electors.

*Education—*

That the Liberal party pledges itself, if returned to power, to a forward policy in the matter of education. Education has suffered, and is suffering grave disadvantages in this Province from its subordination to another department, and should be placed in charge of a Minister of Education.

*Extension of Province—*

That this convention is of the opinion that in order that Manitoba may take her rightful place in confederation it is essential that the area of the Province be increased to include that part of the territory of Keewatin lying between the northern boundary of Manitoba and the Hudson Bay, and that our financial arrangements with Ottawa should be placed on the same basis as those of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

*Hudson Bay Railway—*

That in view of the importance to Western Canada of the early construction of the Hudson Bay Railway, the Dominion Government, in the opinion of this convention, should make this work a national undertaking and insure its early completion under conditions which would make the road an open railway highway to the sea for all time.

*Agriculture—*

That agriculture being the paramount industry of Manitoba, this convention is of the opinion that its importance warrants the creation (or allotment) of a separate portfolio to agriculture, as in the case of the other Provinces, in order that the various matters connected with agriculture, such as fat stock shows, travelling dairies, agricultural colleges, grants to fairs, live stock and grain growers' associations, exhibitions, agricultural education in the schools, and legislation pertaining solely to technical agriculture, e.g., noxious weeds, etc., may be properly and intelligently dealt with; and, further, that this convention views with regret the indifference shown by the present Government to advanced work in agriculture, by its indifference towards such great movements as the seed grain special and seed fairs.

*Commercial Intelligence Branch—*

That as Manitoba is pre-eminently a farming Province the encouragement of agriculture in all its branches should be the first duty of the Government, and that its agricultural department should include a commercial intelligence branch.

*Good Roads—*

That inasmuch as the prosperity of the Province depends in a large measure upon the existence of good roads the Government should have a definite policy whereby it can co-operate with the municipalities in building a first class system of main thoroughfares.

*Sharing Taxes with Municipalities—*

That a reasonable proportion of the revenue received from the taxation of railway companies be distributed on some equitable plan of distribution, to the municipalities.

*Conserving Trust Funds—*

That all receipts of principal from M. & N. W. and H. B. land sales, be set aside for the payment of the bonds maturing in 1910.

*Voters' Lists—*

That the Election Act should provide that voters' lists should be prepared specially for each election, whether a general or a bye-election, and only then: that the lists should be based on a list of resident ratepayers prepared by the municipal authorities, supplemented by personal registration under conditions giving ample facilities for the purpose.

*Railway Bond Guarantees—*

That this convention expresses its emphatic disapproval of the unwise wholesale guaranteeing of railway bonds.

*Public Ownership—*

That the public should control all public utilities, such as water-works, lighting, and telephone systems, and that in granting franchises and charters for such the right of their ultimate ownership by the people should be provided for.

*Fair Wages and Factory Act—*

That a fair wage clause be inserted in all contracts awarded by the Provincial Government, and that the provision for the same be made in the case of contracts upon the works subsidized by the Government;

That the Factory Act be rigidly enforced;

That amendments be made to the Workingmen's Compensation Act extending the remedies and facilitating trials under the Act.

*Combines—*

That it is the duty of the Crown to subject all alleged combines and associations in restraint of trade to the most searching investigation; and to prosecute and punish all breaches of the law in this respect.

*Administration of Justice—*

That the administration of justice should be impartial and non-political, thereby commanding the respect and confidence of the people in contrast with the persistent and determined prostitution of the machinery of justice to partisan ends, which has been the practice of the present administration.

*Immigration and Colonization Policy—*

That the prosperity of the Province could be greatly enhanced by a vigorous publicity, immigration and colonization policy, by which settlers would be secured for Manitoba.

*A Revenue Tariff—*

That the Liberals of Manitoba, in convention assembled, affirm their adherence to the traditional Liberal policy; that the rate of customs taxation should be based solely on the revenue requirements of the country; and declare it to be their intention resolutely to oppose any proposal, from whatever source, to increase the tariff, as being prejudicial to the interests of the Dominion as a whole;

And, further, are of the opinion that in the forthcoming revision of the tariff it is desirable that the tendency of the changes should be towards lower duties, particularly on timber, machinery, fruit, and clothing, which are necessities of western farmers, whose prosperity ensures the prosperity of the manufacturing industries; and the preference of 33½ per cent. on importations from Great Britain and her colonies should be maintained in its entirety.

*Approval of Dominion Government Policy—*

This convention of Manitoba Liberals desires to place on record its approval of the ten years of capable and progressive administration given the Dominion by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and his colleagues; and in particular, commends them for their energetic and statesmanlike immigration and transportation policy which has been a main factor in the great development of Western Canada; and this convention feels confident that the continuance of this policy of peopling the West with desirable settlers and securing the construction of necessary main railway highways will be of lasting benefit to the whole Dominion.

*Telephones—*

Resolution adopted by the Manitoba Liberal Executive Dec. 27, 1906:—

“The Liberal party declares emphatically in favor of complete Government ownership and operation of a telephone system in this Province, believing this to be the only practical solution of the question of coping with the existing monopoly, and, if the party is successful in carrying the country, we undertake to proceed with the installation of such a system as soon as the necessary legislation can be passed and the present Government's Acts repealed, so as to relieve the municipalities of the cost and trouble of installing their systems.”

The foregoing resolutions were adopted by the Liberals in convention, March 27 and 28, 1906.

## LIBERAL PLATFORM, APRIL 5th, 1910—FREE PRESS

“That inasmuch as the prosperity of the Province depends, in large measure, upon the existence of good roads, the Liberal party pledges itself to a definite policy, whereby it can co-operate with the municipalities in building a first-class system of thoroughfares.”

“That the Liberal party stands pledged, if returned to power, to make the telephone commission free from all partisan control and responsible to the Legislature; to restore the control of its accounts to the Provincial Auditor and to allow no portion of the receipts to be diverted to current revenue, with a view to giving the Province the very best system of telephones at the lowest possible price.”

“That the Liberals of Manitoba in convention assembled, believe that a satisfactory adjustment of the boundary question consists in the acceptance of the boundaries as offered by the Dominion Government, provided it is accompanied by the transfer to this Province of the lands, minerals, timber, fisheries and other natural resources of the added territory.”

“That the administration of justice should be impartial and non-political, thereby commanding the respect and confidence of the people in contrast with the persistent and determined prostitution of the machinery of justice to partizan ends which has been the continued practice of the present administration.”

“(a) That the public lands of Manitoba, instead of being sacrificed in large quantities by private sale, should be conserved, and disposed of in small parcels, either to actual settlers at reasonable prices and under conditions imposing settlement duties, or by public auctions.

“(b) That public swamp lands be drained before being sold, and that the government co-operate with the settlers in forming drainage districts and share proportionately with them the expenses in this connection.”

“The financial administration of the present Government has been extravagant, improvident and partisan, and has violated the principles of constitutional government. The Liberal party promises, if returned to power, to reduce the cost of administration by \$200,000 without impairing the efficiency of the service.”

“That the Liberal party, in convention assembled, adopt the principle of direct legislation through the initiative and the referendum, and pledge itself, if returned to power, to pass legislation giving it full effect.”

“That a reasonable proportion of the revenue received from the taxation of railway companies be distributed in some equitable plan of distribution to the municipalities.”

"That, as Manitoba is pre-eminently a farming Province, the encouragement of agriculture in all its branches should be the first duty of the government and warrants the creation of a separate portfolio to agriculture in order to take care of the various matters connected with agriculture and the establishment of demonstration farms. Also that the agricultural department should include a commercial intelligence branch."

"That this convention re-affirm the cordial sympathy of the Liberal party with the temperance movement as a moral reform and pledge itself, if the Liberals are returned to power, to further amend the Liquor Act so as to:

"(1) Make a majority vote of the 'Resident' electors sufficient to carry a local option by-law.

"(2) Give the electors of any municipality power to limit or reduce the number of licenses to be granted by the same system as a local option by-law is voted upon.

"(3) Establish a licensing branch of the county court judges to consider all applications and grant all licenses instead of the present system of license commissioners."

Increased grants to all schools.

Compulsory Education.

A Provincial University.

A non-partisan elevator commission subject only to the legislature.

### THE 1910 GRIT PLATFORM—WHAT IT IS

The most recent production of the local feast gathering of Grits—the paid retinue of the Dominion Government in Manitoba—took place in the City of Winnipeg in April last. It consists of what they call a platform upon which to stand in the approaching Provincial elections in proclaiming their own virtues and declaiming the Roblin Government. It is somewhat of a remarkable production; it contains many lines, much covering, but little meat. It bears the impress that the "machine" engaged in the construction of the platform had been well refreshed before undertaking the job and that they had worked continuously thereon, hit or miss, in order that some kind of a structural monstrosity should be forthcoming in time for presentation to the clan gathering. The same old planks, some rotten and splintered with age, others thin with usage, were used, being merely turned over to present a better surface appearance. The design denotes that the completed product of the tailors is neither round, square or in anywise



symmetrical; that a crude attempt has been made to uphold the superstructure and hide the flimsy props resting on a boggy soil; and that the workmanship is of the crudest character.

To briefly examine the platform:—

### PLANKS

That inasmuch as the prosperity of the Province depends, in a large measure, upon the existence of good roads, the Liberal party pledges itself to a definite policy, whereby it can co-operate with the Municipalities in building a first class system of thoroughfares.

This is meaningless. The Roblin Government ever since it has been in office has year in and year out co-operated with the Municipalities in building roads: has appointed a good roads commissioner to instruct and assist Municipalities in the art of road making, and has vigorously pursued a policy of progress in this respect. This plank is merely alluring verbiage put together as a possible vote-catcher; a sort of twelfth hour promise to do something in the future which their friends who preceded them—the Greenway Government—neglected doing for twelve long years.

That the Liberal party stands pledged, if returned to power, to make the telephone commission free from all partisan control and responsible to the Legislature; to restore the control of its accounts to the Provincial Auditor and to allow no portion of the receipts to be diverted to current revenue, with a view to giving the Province the very best system of telephones at the lowest possible price.

The several statements contained in this plank are contradictory of each other. How, as stated, the telephone commission is to be made non-partisan by restoring the control of the accounts to the Provincial Auditor, an official holding office by the grace of, and dominated by, the government in office, is a circumlocution of thought not readily to be grasped by any one not possessed of supernatural imagination; how the proposal to give the Province the very best system of telephones at the lowest price is to be accomplished by merely placing the proceeds in current revenue, requires considerable more explanation than is set forth; and how the commission would be made free from partisan control when appointed by a partisan government (such as the Grits would be to the core) is another suggestion beyond the realm of natural reasoning or deduction.

That the Liberals of Manitoba believe that a satisfactory adjustment of the boundary question consists in the acceptance of the extension of the boundaries as offered by the Dominion government, provided it is accompanied by the transfer to the Province of the lands, minerals, timber, fisheries and other natural resources of the added territory.

This is a most amusing production viewed in the light of events. It is a right about face movement at the command of the Ottawa Government—simply another move in the bunco game. In the Grit platform of 1907 it is stated: "That this convention is of the opinion that in order that Manitoba may take her rightful place in Confederation it is essential that the area of the Province be increased to include that portion of the territory of Keewatin lying between the northern boundary of Manitoba and Hudson's Bay, and that our financial arrangements with Ottawa should be placed on the same basis as those of Alberta and Saskatchewan. A complete somersault has therefore taken place. At every turn in the political arena on the question Tobias Crawford Norris and company are looking out for bigger hoops to jump through. They keep on hoping to fool the people all the time, but as Lincoln said: "You can fool all the people some of the time, some of the people all the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time." To their shame and discredit every move made by them is designed to assist Sir Wilfrid Laurier in his intention not to accord Manitoba that square and honorable dealing to which it is entitled to. Tobias Crawford Norris and his following are simply clay in the hands of Sir Wilfrid to do his bidding; mere automats to be put in motion at will. They say "All Hail" to the people of Manitoba, but, like Judas, not a word of it do they mean. This boundary plank is a veritable "spring board" for the local Grit aggregation, every conceivable "act" must be attempted to prevent the Roblin Government securing justice and fair play for Manitoba.

That the administration of justice should be impartial and non-political, thereby commanding the respect and confidence of the people in contrast with the persistent and determined prostitution of the machinery of justice to partisan ends which has been the continued practice of the present administration.

O Gods! This plank would almost make a bronze statue weep. Just conjecture the local Grit organization standing aghast and holding up both hands in holy horror at the administration of Justice in this Province—contemplation is wafted away in space. These purists have short memories. They know, but forget, the manifold acts and deeds of corruption saturating the very name of government as administered by their Ottawa masters, and they need not look this far. Do they not recall the disgraceful proceeding of a former attorney-general in the Greenway Government on the eve of a general election prostituting his office by sending out most glaring and untruthful statements for the purpose of damaging the opponents of the then government? Pure administration of Justice, forsooth! It is simply nauseating to scent such stuff as this plank is made of.

That the financial administration of the present Government has been extravagant, improvident and partisan, and has violated the principles of constitutional government. The Liberal party promises, if returned to power, to reduce the cost of administration by \$200,000 without impairing the efficiency of the service.

Knowing the source from which it comes this plank will be taken for what it is worth. When the platform constructors were at work they might just as well have promised that the cost of administration would be reduced by \$500,000. Why not go the whole hog when about it?

**That the Liberal party adopt the principle of direct legislation through the initiative and referendum, and pledge itself, if returned to power, to pass legislation giving it full effect.**

This is cheap sugar-coated clap-trap, and will deceive no one.

**Voters' Lists prepared only for elections from Municipal Lists supplemented by personal registration.**

This plank is another rickety one. If carried out the effect would be to make the whole municipal machinery of the Province political, a most undesirable thing to do. We have the fairest Election Act in the world. Let us keep it so and not return to the old order of Grit crookedness in preparing the Voters' Lists.

**The establishment of demonstration farms in connection with agriculture.**

Demonstration farms! What do they mean? Demonstration of Grit pow-wows probably would be the result attained. The Siftons, Leech's and the whole "organization" would doubtless take part. The public would pay the piper at no cost to the demonstrators.

**That the public lands be conserved and disposed of to actual settlers, and that the swamp lands be drained before being sold.**

This is ludicrous viewed in the light of how "chief conservator" Sifton has conserved the public lands of the West. Burrows and Adamson will not appreciate this plank a little bit. We can almost see them frown in disapprobation. As to the swamp lands being drained before being sold. They certainly would be drained. The outlet though would end in the trouser pockets of Grit speculators.

And so throughout the platform misfits are evident and the construction of the crudest character. It is designed to deceive and this is its whole purpose. It is not worthy of further dissection.

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## CONCLUSION

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In the foregoing the record of the Roblin Government has been truthfully set forth, and the policy and pretensions of opponents fairly dealt with.

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## GOOD GOVERNMENT

versus

## OTTAWA DOMINATION

and all the radiating iniquities

is the issue

for the

PEOPLE

of

MANITOBA

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# FIAT JUSTITIA

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